

# LONDONDERRY MODEL SCHOOL.

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RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 8 March 1875.]—for,

COPIES "of the EVIDENCE taken before Mr. *Sheridan*, Chief of Inspection,  
on the Inquiry held by Order of the NATIONAL EDUCATION BOARD of  
*Ireland* at the MODEL SCHOOL, *Londonderry*, in May 1874: "

"Of his REPORT on such Inquiry: "

"Of any ORDER or DECISION of the Board thereon: "

"And, of all CORRESPONDENCE relating thereto."

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Education Office, Dublin, }  
15 April 1875.

JAMES KELLY, } Secretaries.  
W. H. NEWELL, }

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(*Mr. Charles Lewis.*)

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
27 May 1875.

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## SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS.

No.	Date.	DOCUMENT.	Page.
1	8 November 1873	Letter from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to Secretaries - - - - -	3
2	8 " "	Letter from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to Secretaries, with Enclosures - - - - -	3
3	10 " "	Letter from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to Secretaries, with Enclosures - - - - -	4
4	9 December "	Letter from Secretaries to A. O. Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector - - - - -	9
5	17 " "	Letter from Mr. O'Callaghan to Secretaries, in reply - - - - -	9
6	19 " "	Letter from Mr. O'Callaghan to Secretaries, in reply - - - - -	16
7	3 January 1874	Letter from Secretaries to William Bole, Esq., District Inspector - - - - -	16
8	10 " "	Letter from William Boyle, Esq., to Secretaries, with Enclosures - - - - -	16
9	3 February "	Minute of Proceedings of Board of National Education - - - - -	18
10	10 " "	Minute of Proceedings of Board of National Education - - - - -	18
11	14 " "	Letter from Secretaries to William Bole, Esq., District Inspector - - - - -	19
12	24 " "	Letter from Secretaries to A. O. Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector - - - - -	19
13	16 March - "	Letter from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to Secretaries - - - - -	20
14	14 April - "	Minute of Proceedings of Board of National Education - - - - -	21
15	16 " "	Letter from Secretaries to J. F. Sheridan, Esq., Chief of Inspection - - - - -	21
16	1 May - "	Letter from J. E. Sheridan, Esq., in reply (Enclosure) - - - - -	21
17	2 " "	Letter from Secretaries to J. E. Sheridan, Esq. - - - - -	22
18	30 " - "	Report of Inquiry, held in Londonderry Model School, by J. E. Sheridan, Esq., with three Appendices - - - - -	22
		Antecedents of Mr. Todd, from 1862 to 1872 inclusive - - - - -	27
19	30 " - "	Minutes of Evidence taken at above Inquiry - - - - -	44
20	23 June - "	Minutes of Proceedings of Board of National Education - - - - -	65
21	23 " - "	Letter from Secretaries to J. W. Murland, Esq. - - - - -	66
22	25 " - "	Letter from Secretaries to the Right Honourable Mr. Justice Morris - - - - -	66
23	30 " - "	Minutes of Proceedings of Board of National Education - - - - -	66
24	2 July - "	Letter from Secretaries to A. O'Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector - - - - -	66
25	2 " - "	Letter from Secretaries to William Bole, Esq., District Inspector - - - - -	66
26	7 " - "	Letter from William Bole, Esq., to Secretaries - - - - -	67
27	11 " - "	Letter from Secretaries to William Bole, Esq., in reply - - - - -	67
28	18 " - "	Letter from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to Secretaries (with Enclosure) - - - - -	68

COPIES of the EVIDENCE taken before Mr. Sheridan, Chief of Inspection, on the Inquiry held, by Order of the NATIONAL EDUCATION BOARD of Ireland, at the MODEL SCHOOL, Londonderry, in May 1874; of his REPORT on such inquiry; of any ORDER or DECISION of the Board thereon; and, of all CORRESPONDENCE relating thereto.

— No. 1. —

LETTER from William Bale, Esq., District Inspector, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

District 2.—Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 8 November 1873.

I am to report that on the morning of the 6th instant, in the Londonderry Model School, Mr. Todd, the Head Master, stated to me in a very offensive and acrimonious tone, that he complained of the manner in which the recent annual examination of the school had been conducted, and the premiums awarded to the pupils; that he would bring his complaint before the Board personally and by writing, and, if this would not do, would take another method of obtaining satisfaction; and also that he would not submit to be trampled on by any man or body of men. These remarks seemed to have reference to the fact that he considered himself not sufficiently consulted regarding the award of the premiums, though the list had been submitted to him by me in the inspector's office on the morning of the public examination. Mr. Todd's tone on the occasion was such as to preclude any discussion of the subject, and to-day when the question turned up again, and I requested him to abstain from any remarks of a personal nature, or which would be calculated to produce irritation, he used even more offensive language, and such as renders impossible under present circumstances any cordiality in our official relations, or any feeling of satisfaction on my part in the discharge of my official duties in connection with the school.

There are further particulars which I hold over for the present, and respectfully request that an inquiry be instituted with as little delay as possible into the grounds of complaint alleged by Mr. Todd, and the statements in which he has thought proper to indulge regarding it.

I am, &c.  
(signed) William Bale,  
District Inspector.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

— No. 2. —

LETTER from William Bale, Esq., District Inspector, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 8 November 1873.

Enclosures.

The accompanying letter addressed to you, dated 6th instant, from Mrs. Smithies, Head Mistress of the Londonderry Model Female School, together with the note addressed to myself bearing the same date, and requesting that the letter be forwarded to you by that evening's post, were handed to me this evening at seven o'clock. As no reference to any such communication was made by Mrs. Smithies to-day at an interview in the Model School, and as the contents of her letter seem to me of a most extraordinary nature, I simply forward it without any comment.

I am, &c.  
(signed) William Bale,  
District Inspector.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

## Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Sir,

66, Great James-street, 6 November 1873.

Will you kindly oblige me by forwarding the enclosed letter to the Education Office by this evening's post.

William Bole, Esq.

Yours, &c.  
(signed) *M. J. Smithies.*

## Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 6 November 1873.

With reference to the recent public examinations in the Londonderry Model Schools, I beg, through you, to make a few observations to the Commissioners on the remarks of the head inspector in the course of his speech, as being calculated to bring the parents and teachers into collision, and depreciate the value of the institution.

Mr. O'Callaghan states that in the selection of meritorious pupils who should receive premiums, the result, as compared with the year 1872, was unfavourable; and he accounts for it by stating that he found, on inquiry, that the parents had not co-operated with the teachers. Now of whom could he make the inquiry but of the teachers, therefore this information came from them.

I entirely demur to this statement as far as I am concerned, and I shall endeavour to show that there are other and more immediate causes with which the parents have no concern.

At the outset, I desire to state that as principal of the girls' school, I have ever found a willingness and cordial concurrence on the part of the parents in aiding the teachers in every possible way from the opening of the institution to the present hour. This is a matter of fact. As far as regards myself personally, I have ever laboured zealously for the welfare of the schools, and for the system of administration which I was placed here to carry out; and none the less so in this than in former years; therefore I like even-handed justice to be meted out regardless of invidious distinctions.

But as to the "falling off," if falling off there really was, there are causes other than those stated, which, if inquired into, would throw light on the subject.

One of these, I am constrained to say, was the tone and demeanour which Mr. O'Callaghan adopted towards the teachers when conducting the preliminary examinations, calculated to lower them in the eyes of their pupils, as well as to unnerve and deter the latter from answering, and consequently from reaching a higher standard of efficiency, which, if other means had been adopted, would, most undoubtedly, have been assured.

In conclusion, I have to complain strongly of not being consulted in the matter of the distribution of the premiums, as to whether a girl was regular in attendance, industrious, and well conducted.

These appear to be matters of the utmost indifference. I have only to add that this is the first time since the opening of the schools that I have been ignored in this profoundly important matter.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *M. J. Smithies.*

The Secretaries, Education Office, &amp;c. &amp;c.

## — No. 3. —

LETTER from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

District 2.—Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 10 November 1873.

I ENCLOSE herewith a communication from Mr. Todd, Head Master of the Londonderry Model School, with reference to the recent annual examination, which he has sent to me, with a request that it should be forwarded to you by this evening's post.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *William Bole,*  
District Inspector.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

## Enclosure in No. 3.

Gentlemen,

Derry Model School, 8 November 1873.

I run through you to lay before the Commissioners of National Education the following statement in reference to certain matters connected with our late public examination. Enclosed in District 3, Letter 269.

In the first place, I have to complain of the manner in which Mr. O'Callaghan refers to the heads of the respective departments of the school; one teacher is singled out for unqualified praise, while with regard to the other two the public are led to believe from the manner in which their schools were referred to, that they had certainly not been doing their duty. I do not complain of inspectors reporting fairly in the office the state of the schools, blaming where blame is deserved, and praising where praise is due; and making what comments they may think necessary; it is their duty to do this, and I should be the last to complain of it, however injuriously it might affect myself; but surely in an assembly of the children's parents and friends, and on the occasion of a public examination, when it is usual to make the schools appear in the most favourable light, this is not the time or the place for commenting on the defects of the teachers.

The design of public examinations, as I understand it, is to exhibit specimens of the work of the schools, to impress the people favourably towards these institutions, and to enlist popular sympathy on their behalf, but if all the faults and failings of the teachers, or the shortcomings of the schools, are to be brought before the public and commented on, then I have no hesitation in stating that these examinations will have anything but an injurious effect on the schools, and that the confidence which the people everywhere have hitherto reposed in their efficiency must be greatly shaken. I am not aware that any other head inspector except Mr. O'Callaghan ever does refer to the defects of schools at public examinations. There is no school that is in every respect what it ought to be, but I think the shortcomings of schools and teachers might be dealt with without doing anything calculated to lower them in public estimation.

But the most damaging part of Mr. O'Callaghan's speech is that which brings the teachers and the parents of the pupils into collision. He says, in reference to the small number of pupils who get premiums, "I regret to say, the results were not as favourable as those of the last year's examinations. This was a serious matter, and we were bound to inquire into it, and the result of our inquiry was this, we found the parents were to blame."

"They had not given that attention that was naturally expected from them, and had not co-operated with the teachers in the education of their children as they should have done, &c."

Now, I am afraid the people will hardly accept this as the true cause of failure. They will naturally say the results have been hitherto favourable. Why did this neglect of parents not operate in other years? Or is it that by unanimous consent they determined at the beginning of this year that they would cease to render that assistance to their children, and to exercise that amount of oversight and care in reference to their education which they had formerly done. I can only say that Mr. O'Callaghan had no information from me to justify him in making such a charge as this against the parents. I have been asked by scores of people within the last few days, why such a charge had been preferred, and why the teachers should excuse themselves at the expense of the parents; and my answer was, that in no town in Ireland do the people take a greater interest in the education of their children, or co-operate more heartily with the teachers than they do in Derry; and I think their attendance in such numbers at these examinations is a proof of this. It is not correct, therefore, to lay the blame in that quarter.

So far as my school is concerned, it is no secret to either head or district inspector that it has laboured under great disadvantages during the last year. Poor Mr. McColgan's long illness, and the want of a teacher in his place since he left, a staff of not very efficient pupil teachers, and the absence of two of the other assistants from their divisions while engaged in teaching singing and drawing in the girls' school, must, I think, be regarded as matters which interfere most seriously with the efficient working of the school. There are other things, too, which are not unknown to the inspectors, that are not a little unfavourable to the success of the school, which I shall not further refer to at present. One would have thought that these, or some of them, might have been urged as an excuse for any drawback in the answering of the pupils, in preference to the one given, and one which the public in Derry will certainly not accept as an explanation of the matter in question.

I can honestly say, for myself, that I have wrought harder and longer hours during the last 12 months than I ever did in my life. I have done for the most part my own work and that of Mr. McColgan, both in the school and with the pupil teachers, without asking anyone to assist me, and without any grumbling or complaint. I have been engaged from seven o'clock in the morning until a late hour at night in duties connected with the place, and if public reference must be made to any want of success, real or imaginary, in working the school, this want, I conceive, should not be attributed to a cause having no foundation in experience, and calculated moreover to give serious offence to the community.

Another point also to which I would direct attention is this: on all other occasions of a similar kind, the head teachers were consulted in making out the premium list. There are many things connected with the pupils, such as regularity of attendance, punctuality, good conduct, &c., known only to the teachers, which are generally taken into account in

awarding premiums, but on this occasion we were not consulted, and the list was made out without the slightest reference to us, direct or indirect. The whole affair, I regret to say, has given great dissatisfaction both to teachers and to parents.

The exclusion of the teachers from having anything to do with the premiums, or from any knowledge even of the amount given to their respective schools, is a novelty in the management of model schools, and is all the more unaccountable from the fact that last year our co-operation and assistance were asked and acted upon.

For the last week preceding the examination I was busy late and early, often from five o'clock in the morning until twelve at night, in making preparatory arrangements, borrowing furniture, getting it carted to and from the school, filling invitation cards, addressing them, and sending them out, arranging the furniture in the room, &c. Having done my best to have everything in proper order, I confess that I felt annoyed at finding the teachers overlooked and ignored in every matter connected with the premiums.

How very different is the administration of another department in our establishment, the head of which gets a considerable sum to dispose of just as she thinks fit.

I inclose copies of Mr. O'Callaghan's speech from two of the local newspapers.

I am, &c.

(signed) William Todd,  
Head Master.

The Secretaries,  
Office of Education.

#### EXTRACT from the Londonderry "Sentinel."

[The extract from the Londonderry "Standard" is almost identical, differing from this Report only in a few unimportant words.]

#### Londonderry District National Model School Public Examination.

THE public annual examination of the pupils of the above educational institution was held on Tuesday in the apartment of the building used as the boys' schoolroom, under the superintendence of the Head Inspector, Andrew O'Callaghan, Esq., M.A., assisted by William Bale, Esq., M.A., District Inspector. There was a large attendance of the parents and friends of the pupils, as well as of those of our citizens who take an interest in the education of the young, a fact which bears testimony to the great and well-merited popularity which the institution continues to enjoy in this district.

Amongst those present were: Henry Darcus, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Derry; Rev. Professor Smyth, D.D., Sir Edward Reid, J.P., and Lady Reid, William J. Foster, J.P., Rev. Robert Ross, Forrest Reid, Esq., Rev. John M'Carter, Mr. Alexander Skipton, Rev. Professor M'Gaw, A.B., Robert M'Vicker, Esq., T.C., Mrs. M'Vicker and family; William Thompson, Esq., J.P., Rev. Robert Sewell and Mrs. Sewell, Rev. Professor Witherow, A.B., Walter Bernard, Esq., M.D., Rev. J. B. M'Bride, Fahan; Rev. M. Wilson, Rev. R. M'Creery, Ballyarnett; L. Warnock, Esq., Miss Watson, Mrs. and Miss Andrews, Thomas Taylor, Esq., S. Jones, Esq., Miss Adams, John M'Cleery, Esq., R. J. M'Vicker, Esq., Mrs. Hutchison, the Misses Cunningham, James Lowry, Esq., and Mrs. Lowry, Miss Edwards Bart, Mrs. Walker, G. J. Scott, Esq., and Mrs. Scott, Mrs. and Miss Reid, Archibald M'Corkell, Esq., T.C., Mrs. Russell, Miss Osborne, and Miss Thompson, Archibald Roulstone, Esq., Rev. Thomas Croskerry and Mrs. Croskerry, J. Alexander, Esq., George Lloyd, Esq., Captain Rencynski, William Campbell, Esq., Mr. and Miss Given, R. G. Huskie, Esq., Rev. R. B. M'Knight, James Smyth, Esq., William Jefferson, Esq., B. M'Feters, Esq., M. Haston, Esq., C. W. Kennedy, Esq., F. Framan, Esq., the Misses Allen, Mrs. J. Croom, Mrs. and Miss Nevin, J. Ferguson, Esq., Thomas Ross, Esq., Miss O'Donnell, Mrs. Thompson, Miss Ranger, W. Lithgow, Esq., and Mrs. Lithgow, Thomas A. Thompson, Esq., Miss Connor, Miss Ramsay, John Mathewson, Esq., Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Coppin, Miss Lloyd, Mrs. Price, Miss Rhames, Miss M. Minniece, John Pinkerton, Esq., M. M'Cleery, Esq., Mrs. Philson, Joseph G. Hunter, Esq., Mrs. Stewart, Thomas Sweeney, Esq., Henry Hamilton, Esq., Alexander M'Cutcheon, Esq., Mrs. M. Hutchison, Miss Wybrants, Miss E. M. Hutchison, Smith Osborne, Esq., William M'Donald, Esq., Miss Darling, Miss M'Bride, J. C. M'Learn, Esq., R. Watson, Esq., Miss Lowther, Miss Allan, William Dale, Esq., Miss Donnell, Miss Ballantine, Miss Kennedy, Mrs. Joyce, Miss Babington, the Misses Jover, Mrs. Walters, sister, and niece; Miss Magilton, Mrs. Tettle, Samuel M. Clark, Esq., Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. R. Buchanan and family, Mrs. Captain Henry, Mrs. Hay, Miss M'Connell, Mr. and Mrs. M'Vicker, J. Grieve, Esq., Mrs. Williams and Miss Williams, D. N. M'Curdy, Esq., Miss Burns, Miss M'Clure, S. Foster, Esq., Ballinacross; Mrs. Foster and family, Miss Porter, Miss Baldrick, Mrs. Wylie, Miss Smyth, Mrs. Ferris, Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. J. F. Wilson, James K. Thompson, Esq., Mrs. Edwards Bart; J. Sempill, Esq., John West, Esq., James L. Knox, Esq., J. Graham, Esq., Mrs. Graham, Mrs. R. Buchanan, G. F. Reid, Esq., Mrs. Roulstone, Miss C. Lamb, Miss C. Roulstone, Miss Morton, Miss Ross, Miss Allen, Miss Gilmore, Miss Reid, Miss Foster, Mrs. and Miss Mooney, Charles M'Vicker, Esq., Mrs. and Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Beresford, Miss M'Hamilton, Mrs. and Miss Austin, Rev. G. R. Wedgwood, Miss E. Crawford, Miss J. Emery, H. Wilson, Esq., Mrs. M'Nair, the Misses Cuthbert, Mrs. Hay, Messrs. James P. Dixon, W. J. Thompson, and J. Roden, Mrs.

Mrs. Greer, L. Hanna, Esq., Mrs. Glendonlog, Mrs. Perry, Miss Donnell, Miss Price, Mrs. W. Mitchell, Miss Mathewson, Mrs. A. Allen, C. Ogg, Esq., and Mrs. Ogg, Miss Christie, and Miss N. Mathewson, &c. &c.

The industrial department of the female school is efficiently managed by Mrs. Smithies, head teacher of the female department, and Miss Armstrong, assistant. Specimens of plain and fancy needlework, embroidery, &c., which were exhibited in the girls' schoolroom, attracted the attention and elicited the admiration of ladies especially. Richly worked covers of easy chairs properly upholstered were exhibited to great advantage. Miss Jessie Harper Ogg, we believe, was awarded first place for fancy Berlin wool work by the examiners, as well as by unanimous consent. Miss Sarah M'Sparron came next in order of merit. The pieces of work exhibited by these young ladies had been made up in the form for which they were designed by the upholsterer and cabinet maker, and were much admired by the numerous visitors at the school during the day. For fancy work, Miss Grace Austin and Miss Bella Galbraith also deserve honourable mention. The most creditable specimens of plain needlework were those exhibited by Misses Rachel Ogg, Lizzie Lamberton, Lizzie M'Sparron, Lizzie M'Corkell, Rebecca Anderson, and Grace Austin.

In the Drawing School there were many specimens shown in all the various stages of learning. We have seen a list of names of those who were successful in obtaining prizes in the Science and Art Department, from the judges who sit in South Kensington, of persons who were taught by the drawing master in the Model School (M. L. Smyth), and these bear testimony to the teacher's efficiency. Amongst the pieces shown we particularly noticed some architectural and perspective drawing, freehand drawings bearing the name of James Blair; John M'Vicker, for models and shading; George Galbraith, freehand and models; Ellen Bryson, models, &c.; Samuel Thompson, for freehand, model, and architectural drawings. Amongst the other drawings were some bearing the names of Isabella Galbraith, Grace Austin, Emily Crookerry, and Fanny Wallace, which we deemed worthy of note.

The literary examinations conducted in the boys' school, commenced with the middle division of boys, who were examined by Mr. L. Smyth, assistant teacher and drawing master. The course of examination included English grammar, parsing and reading. Masters Ross and Read read selections from the lessons books in a manner sufficient to show the audience that the art of reading was not neglected, but cultivated successfully by the teachers. Masters J. McNulty and Thomas Williams also read selections in a very creditable manner, and enlisted the attention of the visitors to a great degree.

The middle division of girls was next examined by Miss Patton, assistant teacher. The pupils were exercised in a lesson on metals, which, whether prepared or not, was very creditable to both teachers and taught. Reading exercises were also given; Miss Lizzie Galbraith read "The Slave's Dream;" Miss Maggie M'Vicker, "The Little Bird;" Miss Isabella Hay, "The Blind Girl to her Mother;" Miss Charlotte Thompson, "The Turf shall be my Fragrant Shrine;" Miss Alice M'Gaw, "The Frost;" Miss Mary Ann Gordon, "The Storm;" Miss Maggie Brown, "Charity to Man."

The infant school, under the charge of Miss Dagan, was next subjected to examination, and we must admit that this was not the least interesting part of the proceedings. About 200 children, perhaps more, marched to the gallery, keeping time to a lively marching air (played by Miss Bailey, who presided at the harmonium), and having taken their seats, sang sweetly the melody, "Hurrah, hurrah, for Ireland," with harmonium accompaniment by Miss M'Cormick, assistant teacher to Miss Dagan. In response to the call of the teacher one of the youthful band stood up and recited the piece, "Watchman, What of the Night?" with a solemnity that called for applause. "The Spring Journey" (Bishop Heber) was nicely recited by another. "The Linden Tree," and "I wish I were a Bird," were also given and were well received by the audience; then followed several choruses, including "The Nice Little Clock" (recitative), "The Slave Song," and "Home Sweet Home," to all of which Miss M'Cormick played an accompaniment. A general lesson on the coffee berry was also given. The prevalent feeling with regard to this part of the proceedings was, that the time allotted was only too short, so much were the sympathies of the public won by the singing and acting of the juvenile assemblage. At the conclusion—

Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, said he would now present the premiums to the children in order to allow them to go home. He expressed his wonder and admiration at the amount of general knowledge the children displayed, and said, "I don't think that the Infant Department was ever in a more efficient and healthy state than at present, and I must acknowledge the debt we are under, the Commissioners of National Education as well as the public generally, to the lady who has charge of that department (applause). Let me tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that besides these parchment certificates, every child receives something in the shape of a toy representing some value (applause). They are all going now to enjoy a little feast, and I don't wish to detain them."

The senior division of boys was next examined by Mr. Todd, head master, in physical geography, geometry, and arithmetic. The preceptor, although very practical in his method of teaching, did not fail to make the exercise popular. This examination was exceedingly interesting to those who look to the extent to which an elementary education may reach, and we may observe there were some gentlemen present who did not fail to observe the solid groundwork which the teacher sought to lay, rather than show a superficial surface of fine grinding.

Mrs. Smithies, head teacher of the Female Department, next examined the senior division of girls, the subjects being reading exercises and grammar. Miss Armstrong also assisted in arithmetic. The following pieces were very creditably rendered by the pupils whose

names we give; and we need hardly observe that the reading was a great feature in the proceedings of the day, evincing a very marked improvement on the old hamdrum style of reading, which consisted of naming and eating the words alternately. Miss Jane Witherow read "Death's Final Conquest;" Miss Lizzie McCorkell, "The Battle of Hohenlinden;" Miss Rachel Ogg, "Birds;" Miss Lucy Arthur, "Lines on the Receipt of an Epic Poem;" Miss Lizzie McDonald, "The Lake of Geneva;" Miss Jessie Ogg, "The Graves of a Household;" Miss Isabella Galbraith, "Marie Antoinette;" Miss Grace Austin, "The Death of Absalom;" Miss Sarah M'Sparron, "The Downfall of Poland;" Miss Mag. McIntyre, "Description of Cleopatra."

The singing class (selected from the whole school), which is under the tuition of Mr. W. Speers, was next marched to the gallery, and performed a selection of vocal music, consisting of: 1. "Gipsies Laughing Chorus"; 2. "Take back the Heart" (solo), by Miss Grace Austin; 3. "The Minstrel Boy," as a chorus; 4. "What are the Wild Waves Saying?" a pretty duet, sung with good effect by Miss Austin and Miss Macdonald.

Mr. Mackenzie, assistant teacher, then exercised the senior boys in a lesson on the Industrial Resources of Ireland; after which,

Captain Renczynski introduced his French and German classes. The gallant captain received from his pupils a small presentation, which, not for its intrinsic value so much as the feelings which prompted the gift on the part of his juvenile pupils, must be very gratifying to him. A few of the audience (for they were multifarious in tastes and desires) evinced much interest in the exercises proposed to the pupils.

Mr. Speers then led his pupils in the rendering of the remaining part of the programme, which consisted of "Farewell, but whenever you Mention the Hour" (Moore), "Harold the Valiant" (chorus), "Kathleen Mavourneen," by Miss Macdonald; "Happy be thy Dreams," by Miss Charlotte Thompson. "The earth is the Lord's" (anthem).

Before the distribution of prizes, Henry Darcus, Esq., Mayor, took the chair.

Andrew O'Callaghan, Esq., head inspector, then rose and said, "I have much pleasure in finding the Mayor of the city here to-day to present the certificates to the pupils to whom they have been awarded, and at this late hour of the evening I have nothing to say further than a few words in explanation of the mode of our examination on which the premiums were awarded. Our object in the examination was twofold: first, to ascertain those pupils who should be raised to higher classes, and in this respect the result was most favourable, over 90 per cent. of those examined being advanced to higher classes. The second part of the examination was directed to select the most meritorious pupils who should receive premiums, and in this, I regret to say, the results were not as favourable as those of the last year's examinations.

"This was a serious matter, and we were bound to inquire into it, and the result of our inquiry was this: we found the parents were to blame. They had not given that attention that was naturally expected from them, and had not co-operated with the teachers in the education of their children as they should have done. I am glad to have such an opportunity of addressing the parents and friends of the children, who, I believe, must be present in this assemblage. I need hardly tell you that the teachers in this school are the foremost in Ireland. They are certainly distinguished for their attainments in knowledge, as well as for their success in imparting instruction to the children.

"I fondly hope that the few remarks I have just made, anent the duty of parents, will have a salutary effect on those who are listening to me, and that they will be attended by the very best results which I can hope for, namely, that parents and guardians of children will see that the children prepare their lessons at home. The pupils selected for premiums, you see before you in the gallery. With respect to those who are successful I have to say, that the answering was highly satisfactory. The percentage, on which premiums was awarded, was exceedingly high this year. We raised the percentages, but not to such a degree as would account for the indifference I have already referred to. The friends of those pupils who are chosen for premiums will therefore be gratified to know, that the premiums are greatly enhanced in value. Our first premium this year will be 2*l.* 10*s.* in each school. The Honourable Irish Society give us, each year, 50*l.* for premiums; and the Board of National Education give us 15*l.*; and, under these circumstances, the competition was very considerable. The premiums will now be distributed."

The Mayor then distributed the premiums to the deserving pupils, and afterwards the head inspector rose, and stated that the number of pupils attending the school was approaching 500; the number in attendance seemed to him to have increased with the population and commerce of this city. He would take this opportunity of assuring the gentlemen present, that the teachers and the school only wanted the co-operation of parents to make it the foremost school in Ireland of its kind (applause).

The Mayor said, he regretted it had not been in his power to be present during the progress of the examination, yet he had reason to know the examination was of the most satisfactory and gratifying description. He was highly honoured in being called on to hand certificates to the successful pupils, and hoped it would prove a stimulus to the unsuccessful to the exercise of greater power to gain a higher place.

Mr. O'Callaghan expressed his thanks to the Mayor.

The Mayor in returning thanks, said a boon would be asked for the teachers and scholars.

Robert M'Vicker, Esq., J.C., asked the usual privilege of an evening's amusement and two holidays.

M. M'Clelland,



M. McClelland, Esq., J.C., after explaining his warmest sympathy with the institution and the teachers, seconded the proposal of Mr. M'Vicker.

The Mayor also said, he would take it as a personal favour if Mr. O'Callaghan would concede the request.

Mr. O'Callaghan said it gave him great pleasure indeed to hear Mr. M'Vicker and Mr. McClelland express themselves in such a manner as they had done in praise of the school. The Commissioners of National Education resided in a more southern clime than the gentlemen he had referred to, yet the latter exceeded the former in warmth of disposition (laughter). The Commissioners laid down rules and regulations affecting every minutiae of the details of school arrangement, and one of their rules was that there should be no holidays given after examinations; however, it would require at least one day to remove the gallery erected for the examination, and he would only consent to two days' vacation for that purpose; Mr. M'Vicker had urged his point with much logic, but the Commissioners disapproved of such a thing, and he could not consent to it.

The pupils then gave ringing cheers for Mr. O'Callaghan, for Mr. Bole, and for the gentlemen who had gained for them the two holidays.

The National Anthem was then sung, and the proceedings terminated."

— No. 4. —

Derry Model School.—District 2.

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to A. O'Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector.

Sir, Education Office, 9 December 1873.

We forward herewith Letters 200, 201, and 202, District 2, for your perusal, and request you to return them as soon as possible, with any remarks you may think proper to submit for the consideration of the Commissioners.

These documents should have been forwarded to you before now, only we were in daily expectation of receiving the results reports promised by you in the weekly report upon the model school for the week ended the 1st of November, but which have, nevertheless, not yet come to hand.

We are, &c.

(signed) James Kelly,  
Wm. H. Newell, } Secretaries.

A. O'Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector,  
Derry.

Enclosure.

— No. 5. —

LETTER from A. O. Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

Londonderry Model School.—Annual Examinations of 1873.

Letters referring to Examinations from the Head Master, Mr. Todd, and the Head Mistress, Mrs. Smithies. Letters 200, 201, and 202, District 2.

Gentlemen,

Ballymoney, 17 December 1873.

In accordance of the wish expressed in your letter of the 9th instant, I submit, for the consideration of the Commissioners, the following observations on the statements put forward in the above-mentioned letters by Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies.

I begin with the letter of the former, following his statements in his own order, first promising that it has never been my lot to peruse letters containing such an unbroken series of mis-statements, some of them barely coloured with the truth, and some absolutely clashing with it.

Mr. Todd opens his letter by stating, "In the first place, I have to complain of the manner in which Mr. O'Callaghan refers to the heads of the respective departments of the school. One teacher is singled out for unqualified praise, while, with regard to the other two, the public are led to believe, from the manner in which their schools were referred to, that they had certainly not been doing their duty."

Now this statement has on it the bad feature of suppressing the truth, and thereby conveying a false view of the subject. Anyone reading Mr. Todd's statements would certainly infer that I made the invidious eulogium on Miss Dugan, for it is to the head mistress of the infant department he refers, in the same part of my address, and at the same time with that in which I indulged (as he avers) in disparaging comments on him and Mrs. Smithies.

The following explanation shows this part of the transaction in its true light. For its correctness I refer to an authority acknowledged by Mr. Todd himself, namely, the newspapers accounts of the examinations and general proceedings which he has himself attached

to his letter, and the accuracy of which he thus necessarily admits, as his object in forwarding them must be to have their testimony regarded as an authority.

On the public day of examination, the infant school children were placed in the gallery fronting the audience at about 12½ o'clock, and their examination was brought to a close for the day at about 1½ o'clock. It is usual to hand a few certificates to some of the pupils of the infant school, namely, to those of them who are to be transferred to the male or female department. In doing so, I took occasion to refer in a complimentary manner to Miss Dugan's zeal and success; I said this at about 1¼ o'clock. It was not until 5¼ o'clock I made my remarks on the male and female schools; more than four hours after; the insidiousness arising from proximity of time insinuated in Mr. Todd's letter is thus got rid of; a reference to the newspapers will show this fact at once. But then, after all, the main point is, did I praise one and disparage the other two. Here Mr. Todd's authority comes in, as he certainly did not intend, as my ally, not his. The "Sentinel's" report is, which I have taken the liberty to under-score, "Our object in the examination was twofold, first to ascertain those pupils who should be raised to higher classes, and in this respect the result was most favourable, over 90 per cent. of those examined being advanced to higher classes."

The expression, "The result was most favourable," does not look like a wish on my part to convey to the public that the teachers, as Mr. Todd puts it, "had not been doing their duty."

But I certainly did refer to the small number of premiums obtained by the pupils. I did so for a reason which I shall assign presently.

But to save the credit of the teachers, I endeavoured to make the parents, or more properly stating the matter, some of them, accountable for this unfavourable result. I stated that I had reason for believing that several of the parents did not sufficiently co-operate with the teachers, as regards home lessons. And then I went on to say (see "Sentinel's Report") :—

"I need hardly tell you that the teachers in this school are the *foremost in Ireland*. They are certainly distinguished for their attainments in knowledge, as well as for their success in imparting instruction to the children."

And yet Mr. Todd is not ashamed to state that one of the teachers—meaning Miss Dugan—is "singled out" for especial eulogium in my address.

I proceed now to the next statement in Mr. Todd's letter. He states that the most "damaging" part of my address was contained in my reference to the parents, namely, that several of them were responsible for the diminished number of premiums this year, inasmuch as they did not sufficiently co-operate with the teachers. Mr. Todd states, "I can only say Mr. O'Callaghan had no such information from me to justify him in making such a charge."

For brevity's sake, I shall deal here with a similar statement made in her letter by Mrs. Smithies, namely, that I had no authority from her for such an assertion. In the first place I did not require or need from either of them any confirmation, for I had ocular testimony in the considerable number of the pupils who are detained after hours for failure in their home-lessons.

And besides, as regards the girls' school, nearly two-thirds of the pupils were late many days for the last 12 months in attending school. I inquired the cause of this tardy attendance more than once from Mrs. Smithies, and was informed by her that she had used every means in her power to induce the parents to send their children earlier, but had failed to secure that important object. So that I have, at all events, Mrs. Smithies' authority for my statement.

But still it may be said that, following the suggestions of caution and prudence, I should have contented myself with praising the progress as evidenced in the percentage of pupils promoted to other classes, and to have carefully avoided reference to the weak point, namely, the small number of premiums. Such a remark would be natural enough, if made by a person wholly unacquainted with the mode of procedure observed at a public examination of a model school, and especially by anyone not actually present on this particular examination. It is well known that the day's proceedings are brought to a close by calling the successful pupils to the gallery fronting the audience, and calling each forward to receive the certificate of merit.

In previous years this gallery in the Derry Model School was too small to hold more than the boys or the girls at the same time. This year both together did not fill half of it.

The failure in both schools was very remarkable; so very considerable, indeed, as to call for high official inquiry. I shall exemplify the extent of the failure.

Of the number of boys examined, the centesimal proportion of those selected for premiums was only 25, while in the girls' school it fell so low as 14. I venture to assert that these figures exhibit the lowest answering in record in any of the Commissioners' model schools since their opening.

Those deplorable results contrast wonderfully with the following in two of the other model schools under my charge. The centesimal proportion of premiums to the number examined was in

	Boys.	Girls.
Omagh Model School - - - -	60	73
Enniskillen - ditto - - - -	72	86

As I am away at present from my official residence, I have not the official documents at hand, but I can confidently assert that these figures are substantially correct. The contrast between the Derry school and these other two is somewhat astounding.

To return to the point referred to, and preceding this digression, namely, my reason for referring publicly to the small number of premiums, I have to state that when the pupils were placed in the gallery, and I came forward with the certificates in my hand, and informed the audience that the pupils then occupying the gallery were those who had been selected for premiums, I observed a stir or movement pervade the whole audience, which was composed for the most part of the parents of the children, many of whom had the pleasure in previous years of seeing their children called by name before the public to receive a high distinction. The movement observed was doubtless one of surprise and even consternation.

The parents were undoubtedly deeply mortified, and manifested their bitter disappointment, not certainly in words, but in the more significant form I have described. This evident appeal for explanation was, though mute, yet so clearly the all-absorbing feeling of the moment, that I found it impossible to resist, and made those remarks in which, while I pointed out the general progress of the school, I admitted that there had been a falling-off in the number of premiums, for which result I did several of the parents (I did not say all) should share in the responsibility, on the grounds mentioned by me already, namely, want of due co-operation on their part with the teachers in the matter of home-lessons. These remarks of mine may have been injudicious, but the object of them was clear enough, to save the reputation of the school, and to shield the teachers from the consequences of undivided responsibility.

They have chosen for selfish purposes of their own to make me a conspicuous culprit, to bear the whole weight of the failure; and instead of accepting courageously themselves the result in a hopeful spirit of improvement for the future, they evoke phantoms to attract attention in a different direction, and to divert inquiry from a real and substantial consideration, namely, the very marked failure of their schools in the present year.

As to the parents, they care very little for the small imitation I made with reference to some of them; but I have no doubt they are greatly disappointed in the matter of premiums. To be sure, the Londonderry newspapers have afforded space for some quasi-parents to comment on my remarks; but no one is deceived; everyone knows that these letters originated with one or two individuals.

Indeed there is strong internal evidence (*the familiarity exhibited in minute details, &c.*) that these letters were written by the teachers, or at least, their information communicated by them to some confidential agent for publication; and now, I beg leave to draw particular attention to the striking similarity between these newspaper anonymous letters, and the letters written respectively by Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, in which they convey, in their own handwriting, their charges to the Commissioners. Mr. Bole has preserved these newspaper compositions, and a comparison of them with the letters of Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies will reveal, if I am not much mistaken, a surprising coincidence. Certainly if a close resemblance in style and topics may be accepted as furnishing evidence, amounting almost to positive proof, of identity of authorship, the consequence must be that Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies are responsible for the anonymous effusions in the newspapers. This practice, appealing to the public through the Press, has become inveterate in Derry. These two teachers are conspicuously singular in one respect, namely, their incessant quarrels with inspectors; both are now veterans in this miserable warfare. No inspector was ever connected with the school who escaped their attacks; on each and every such instance of passion and insubordination, an avenging epistle was sure to make its appearance, anonymously, and with lying effrontery in the local journals, to hold up to public condemnation the unfortunate official culprit, who was thus pilloried in a state of abject helplessness.

I proceed now to Mr. Todd's next observation, in which he tries to account for the failure of his school.

"So far as my school is concerned, it is no secret to either head or district inspector, that it has laboured under great disadvantages during the last year; poor Mr. McColgan's long illness, and the want of a teacher in his place since he left, a staff of not very efficient pupil-teachers, and the absence of two of the other assistants from their divisions, while engaged in teaching singing and drawing in the girls' school, must, I think, be regarded as matters which interfere most seriously with the efficient working of the school. There are other things too, which are not unknown to the inspectors, that are not a little unfavourable to the school, which I shall not farther refer to at present."

I am sorry Mr. Todd was not more explicit in his last statement, for I confess I do not know of any exceptional condition of things conducing to inefficiency.

But (a) With respect to Mr. McColgan's absence, Mr. Todd omits to mention that he had during the time the service of a well-qualified substitute sent from Dublin.

(b) As to the staff of pupil-teachers, Mr. Todd has more than once during the last 12 months expressed a thorough satisfaction with his junior staff. Since Mr. Bole took charge, this staff has been maintained at its full strength, and suitable candidates carefully selected by him. There is not an inspector in the Board's service who attaches

more importance to keeping the staff full, or has been more successful in doing so without allowing intervals of any considerable length between appointments. Mr. Todd has frequently admitted his obligations to Mr. Bole in this respect.

(c.) The withdrawal of two assistants for teaching drawing and singing in the girls' school; But Mr. Todd seems to forget that this arrangement has been in existence for years, and that his school flourished notwithstanding. His reference to the disadvantage is wholly inconclusive, when he attributes to its operation the failure of the present year.

I believe I can suggest a *very large source* of the failure. The wish to increase considerably the amount of results' fees induced Mr. Todd to withdraw an undue proportion of his pupils from the ordinary subjects, and to occupy them in learning extra branches.

I shall give an example. He attempted to have his very large fifth class pass in measurement, although they were novices in the subject, having only commenced to learn *two or three weeks before the examination*, and without having, of course, got through half of the prescribed course. The same separation of the boys from the ordinary programme occurred also as regards algebra and Euclid, of which only a small portion was learned. The result was a general and conspicuous failure. I am persuaded that my adherence to the limits prescribed in these subjects annoyed Mr. Todd very much (although I must add, he exhibited no symptoms of annoyance before the pupils), and is the real cause for all the bitterness and hostility he has recently exhibited towards me. This change on his part was surprisingly sudden, for up to the day of the examination in extra subjects, our official relations were for certainly two years, not only friendly, but cordial.

Mr. Todd's next topic for complaint is the following: "On all other occasions of a similar kind, the head teachers were consulted in making out the premium lists. There are many things connected with the pupils, such as regularity of attendance, punctuality, good conduct, &c., known only to the teachers, which are generally taken into account in awarding premiums, but on this occasion we were not consulted, and the list was made out without the slightest reference to us, direct or indirect, &c., &c."

The facts are totally opposed to this statement. All the head teachers were consulted. He admits that my practice has been to consult the teachers; I never have departed from it. My experience, however, is, that the teachers never require the cancelling of a pupil's name in the list; their efforts are generally directed to having names *added*, namely, of pupils, whose answering comes close to the minimum qualifying percentage. Still, I have adhered to the practice, which, however unproductive as regards the special knowledge of the teachers, I have kept up as due to their position, and complimentary to them. In every model school this practice is so well established, that the teachers come forward voluntarily to recommend this pupil or that for a premium, when they understand that their names do not appear on the premium list.

The teachers show generally a great interest in the progress of the examination, and are accurately informed, from their own free perusal of the marking sheets, how the examination is going on for each pupil. The profession of ignorance in this direction would be naturally regarded as an extraordinary admission of apathy or indifference. In cases of conspicuous good conduct, I have added, at a teacher's solicitation, to the list, the names of pupils specially recommended on that ground, but whose answering fell somewhat below the qualifying percentage.

Mr. Todd paid close attention to the examination of his school from its beginning to the close. He had ample opportunity for remarks on the pupils. If a very idle boy answered well, it was open to him, indeed, I think, incumbent on him, to suggest to me to affix to the pupil's name in the marking sheet a mark of exclusion.

But the course he adopted was wholly inexcusable. On the termination of the examination on the public day, when the boys were called up to receive their certificates from the hand of the Mayor of the City, Mr. Todd actually stepped forward, and in the case of one boy, announced to the Mayor and the audience, that "that certificate was wrongfully given." This extraordinary procedure disconcerted the Mayor, and shamed the poor boy before his parents and friends; and not only so, but it was calculated to hold up Mr. Bole and myself to public censure for an imputed carelessness in the discharge of our duty.

I venture to assert that so audacious and wanton a proceeding has never yet been attempted by any teacher of a model school but himself. I commenced this report by stating my opinion as to the truthfulness of the statements of these two teachers, and I believe I have since brought forward facts to fully substantiate that opinion.

There is only one other point to which I have to refer, namely, Mr. Todd's concluding remark, namely, "How very different is the administration of another department in our establishment, the head of which gets a considerable sum to dispose of just as she thinks fit."

This is a weak and unworthy remark. Miss Dugan receives 5*l.* every year for distribution in presents over her large school. These are toys of various kinds, work-boxes, desks, albums, &c., in the purchase of which Miss Dugan has undivided control, and I must say, expends the money in an advantageous and economical way, sending in, as usual, the vouchers of expenditure. Miss Dugan receives 5*l.* for her school, while Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies have allocated to them 80*l.*

The Board grants for premiums 15*l.*, and the honourable the Irish Society 50*l.* Yet Mr. Todd must have his ding at Miss Dugan's small share, small as it is; he evidently likes it

it as little as my public complimentary allusion to her excellent management of her school.

I have now to deal with only one other document, that marked 200, which concerns Mr. Todd, viz., Mr. Bole's letter, which is attached to the weekly report on the model school, for the week ended the 1st November last. In this letter Mr. Bole describes the extraordinary demeanour of Mr. Todd towards him in Mr. Bole's office. Mr. Bole describes Mr. Todd's tone as "offensive and acrimonious" and "such as to preclude any discussion of the subject" (the recent examinations).

This occurred on the 6th November. Again, on the 8th November:

"When the question turned up again, and I requested him to abstain from remarks of a personal nature, or which would be calculated to produce irritation, he used even more offensive language, and such as renders impossible, under present circumstances, any cordiality in our official relations, or any feeling of satisfaction in the discharge of my official duties in connection with the school."

Now this conduct on Mr. Todd's part, however strange, does not surprise me.

It is a part which long practice has made easy and familiar to him. He has no hesitation whatever in hursting into one of these scolding and violent outbreaks, and insulting inspectors personally and in their own office. He treated Mr. Bole's predecessors precisely with the like scant consideration, and similarly in their case flung aside every appearance of respect for their position, and of regard for subordination. I refer to Mr. Porter and to Mr. Dugan, both of whom were so grossly insulted by Mr. Todd that each of them was obliged in self-respect to adopt the certainly inconvenient plan of communicating with him officially by writing only. Of course I need hardly remark that the usefulness of an inspector exposed to such monstrous treatment must be wholly neutralised as regards his functions in the model school, and that his duties there must inevitably become odious and intolerable to himself, unless the authority of the Commissioners is interposed to secure his influence and to protect him from aggression and insubordination.

#### Mrs. SMITHIES' Letter of Complaint.

Mrs. Smithies commences her letter with a statement referring to my allusion to the pupils. In my remarks on the same topic in Mr. Todd's letter, I have already dealt with Mrs. Smithies' assertions. Mrs. Smithies' next statement has reference to the answering of the pupils:

"But as to the falling-off, if falling-off there really was, there are causes, other than those stated, which if inquired into would throw light on the subject." "One of these, I am constrained to say, was the tone and demeanour which Mr. O'Callaghan adopted towards the teachers, when conducting the preliminary examinations; calculated to lower them in the eyes of their pupils, as well as to unnerve and deter the latter from answering and consequently from reaching a higher standard of efficiency, which, if other means had been adopted, would most undoubtedly have been assured."

Now this statement is very untruthful.

There was nothing in my tone or manner to lower the teachers or to unnerve the pupils. I shall substantiate this assertion, I am confident, by the testimony of these very teachers, whom Mrs. Smithies denigs, much against their wish, I suspect, into the controversy. I feel assured of their proving the following statement, namely:

"That they never saw an examination conducted more *quietly* by an inspector, and with nicer consideration for the feelings of the pupils."

In justice to myself, I may observe, that this is a fixed principle with me, which I have carried into practice for years, whenever I examine school, that I shall try to put the pupils perfectly at their ease, and to remove that timidity which some children experience in the presence of a stranger.

If it were possible to collect the opinions on this point from all the teachers whose schools I have examined, I feel the most perfect assurance that I should have their almost unanimous concurrence.

But I need not wait for an experiment which may fairly be regarded as impracticable. I shall approximate to a proof by a test which will readily be admitted to be a fair one. Since I had the honour of an appointment under the Commissioners, I have had either the management or the superintendence of 17 model schools, containing 51 departments, under as many principal teachers, and this during a period of 15 years.

In the transaction of my official duties of all kinds, including, of course, my functions as an examiner, I have the satisfaction of affirming that none of these 51 principal teachers ever wrote to the Commissioners complaining of my conduct, with one exception, and this solitary exception is Mrs. Smithies. But, of course, I could not expect to escape the action of that hostility which she has most impartially dispensed amongst the inspectors charged with the superintendence of the Londonderry Model School.

On all former contests with inspectors, Mrs. Smithies displayed considerable sagacity and mental vigour. But on the present occasion these intellectual qualities appear to have deserted her. She throws the whole blame of the failure of her pupils on me alone.

It seems never to have occurred to her that they may have failed too with Mr. Bole. But Mr. Bole and I divided the subjects of examinations between us he examining in four branches, and I in four others. Now what is the most curious fact in the present case? The marking sheets show that her pupils succeeded in most of my subjects, and that the failures which disqualified them for premiums occurred in the subjects in which Mr. Bole examined them. So much for Mrs. Smithies' assertion that my manner unnerved her pupils. She made no complaint against Mr. Bole's manner or questions. On the contrary, I heard her praise him for the way in which he conducted the examination in her school, and even request of him as a great favour to examine them before the public, instead of doing so herself. Mrs. Smithies proceeds:

"In conclusion, I have to complain strongly at not being consulted in the manner of the distribution of the premiums, as to whether a girl was regular in attendance, industrious, and well conducted."

Mr. Todd makes the same complaint, and the general remarks which I made in reply to his charge equally apply in Mrs. Smithies' case, and as this report is already too long, I shall not repeat them. It is sufficient to say, and it gives me some pain to be obliged to make the assertion, that the above statement of Mrs. Smithies is wholly untrue. The fact is that Mr. Bole and I invited her co-operation.

She came to the inspector's office, and I went myself over the marking sheets of her school along with her. We also requested her to draw out a list of her best pupils in needlework, with their names arranged in the order of merit, that we might compare her estimate of their proficiency in this branch with the opinion we had formed ourselves from an actual examination of their needlework worked in our presence.

This list Mrs. Smithies drew up.

With regard to the literary subjects, when we had gone over the marking sheets, she made no suggestion. In fact, their numerical testimony was too much for her.

But the cause of this most disgraceful failure of the pupils in Mrs. Smithies' school is no mystery. For the last two years she has been palpably failing in zeal and earnestness, and within the last 12 months she appears to have lost all interest in her school.

She has been uniformly late in her attendance, and in this way has exercised a very injurious influence both on her assistant teachers and the monitors, and very remarkably on her pupils. Of the latter, on many days fully two-thirds do not observe the appointed hour for assembling in the morning. I have seen myself, frequently, at 10½ o'clock, a procession of them slowly advancing up the ground to the schoolroom, generally reading some book, no doubt getting up what were literally "tasks" to them, but which should have been home-lessons. And I have more than once drawn Mrs. Smithies' attention to this great infraction of discipline. But of course this injurious disregard for punctuality in the pupils was the natural consequence of the irregularity and apathy of their principal teacher.

This neglect of an important duty has tended to infect her junior staff and even the assistants, and false entries of the times of their attendance have been made by them in the attendance book. Mr. Todd has told me that the entries in that book (the attendance book) are utterly valueless. Mr. Bole's activity and vigilance have gone far to make that book a reliable record, but he received no assistance from Mrs. Smithies, who is, herself, the most conspicuous transgressor as regards lateness of attendance.

I assert that Mrs. Smithies' energy and experience are not exerted now to much purpose for the promotion of the prosperity of her school. I shall give a most remarkable instance of this assertion. During the examination I discovered, to my intense surprise, that there was not a copy of the results programme in her school, and heard with astonishment from Mrs. Smithies herself that she had never seen one.

I remarked to her that there were not six teachers in the kingdom who could make such an admission with truth. When I inquired why she had no copy, she replied, with her usual impetuous manner, shown on all occasions when she is put on her own defence, "That it was none of her business to apply for it, and that it should have been sent to her." In conclusion, I have to state that the extent of failure in her school would have been greater had I chosen to push the regulations or conditions of the results programme strictly against her. She entirely failed to fulfil those conditions. After some consideration, chiefly with regard to her fifth and sixth classes in writing, I came to the conclusion to waive these conditions.

At the same time I was careful to inform her that my action in the matter this year should not be appealed to next year as a precedent.

Had I acted strictly on the conditions of the programme, the number of passes would have been considerably diminished, with a correspondingly depreciating influence on the common fund. It occurred to me that it would be too harsh to punish the assistant teachers for the apathy or neglect of their principal.

In conclusion, I beg leave to assure the Commissioners that I have not advanced a single statement in this report which I am not prepared to sustain by competent and even unwilling testimony.

I have, &c.

(signed) Andrew O'Callaghan,  
Head Inspector.

The Secretaries, &c. &c.

— No. 6. —

LETTER from *A. O'Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector*, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education, enclosing the foregoing.

Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Ballymoney, 19 December 1873.

WITH reference to your letter of the 9th instant, enclosing letters of complaint from Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, principal teachers in the above-named model school, and requesting me to make any remarks that occurred to me on their contents, I have to inform you that I have drawn up a statement, in which I have discussed the principal points in these letters. This statement I forward by this day's post in one envelope; another envelope contains the letters of these teachers, and the other documents that were forwarded to me.

Owing to the pressure of business which admitted of no postponement, I could not afford to give any day to the drawing up of my statement, which was therefore written on parts of three evenings, hence the delay in forwarding it.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Andw. O'Callaghan.*

The Secretaries.

— No. 7. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to *William Bole, Esq., District Inspector*.

Sir,

Education Office, Dublin, 3 January 1874.

WE forward herewith letters addressed to us by Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, and have to inform you that these letters were submitted to Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, for his remarks, and that a statement from him has been received; but that it is desirable that you should also have an opportunity of making such remarks regarding these letters as you might deem it necessary to submit for the information of the Board. You are requested to reply as soon as possible.

Enclosures.  
Two letters and  
newspaper ex-  
tracts.

We are, &c.

Wm. Bole, Esq., District Inspector,  
National Schools, Derry.

(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

— No. 8. —

LETTER from *William Bole, Esq., District Inspector*, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 10 January 1874.

IN compliance with the instructions conveyed in your letter of the 3rd instant, I beg to submit, for the information of the Board, my remarks on the letters addressed to you by Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies regarding the recent annual examination of the Londonderry Model School, which I return herewith.—(Letters of Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, and two newspaper extracts enclosed herewith.)

These letters contain an elaborate and evidently concerted attack on Mr. O'Callaghan with reference to the remarks made by him on the occasion of the distribution of the premiums on the day of the public examination; a complaint, also, evidently concerted, that the teachers were not consulted as to the allocation of the premiums, and an apologetic statement regarding the admitted failure of the departments of the model school which are under the charge of these two teachers, at the annual examination of 1873.

Before entering on these points in detail, I beg to observe that these letters of the teachers have afforded me much regret and surprise. When entering on the charge of this model school above a year and a quarter ago, I was aware that it had occasioned more than usual trouble and correspondence in connection with complaints and investigations requiring frequent action of the Board. Relying on a pretty lengthened experience of the management of model schools, and without undue confidence or fear as to the result, I aimed at such a course of action as would prevent, so far as could be prevented, any further unpleasantness such as had frequently occurred in the management of the school. I myself took a good deal of trouble, and spent much time in the management of the school, so as to prevent questions arising for the special consideration of the Board, and it was fully understood by the teachers that, unless in a case of grave delinquency or serious fault, my aim was so to manage the affairs of the school as to prevent cases from being brought under the

serious notice of the Board. This being so, and having regard to the past history of the school, I cannot fail to see in the present action of the teachers an expression of determination not only not to submit to the smallest extent of subordination necessary for the ordinary relations between inspectors and teachers, but to assume an aggressive attitude when the discharge of the inspector's duty may unavoicably make manifest results unfavourable to the teachers.

That these teachers are disposed to look unfairly and unfavourably on any procedure of Mr. O'Callaghan I am but too well aware. Long before I had any expectation of ever being connected with this model school I was under the necessity of stopping Mr. Todd in an unmeasured effusion of abuse against Mr. O'Callaghan, and when he maintained that he would repeat all he had said, if necessary, in the presence of the Board, I had to let him understand that it was not on that account the less improper that I, who had to deal officially with Mr. O'Callaghan should be required to listen to such statements, and on the morning following the public examination, when Mr. Todd made the personal attack on myself of which I have already complained to you, he stated, among other things, that from me he did not expect such treatment, but that from Mr. O'Callaghan he had never expected anything like justice or fair play. In connection with this point I beg to observe that statements more unfounded and unwarrantable never came before me in all my official experience. In my official intercourse with Mr. O'Callaghan, the concerns of this model school, which occupied a paramount place in the consideration of both of us, were the theme of almost constant conversation. I wish to place it on record that in all this intercourse I never heard from Mr. O'Callaghan a sentiment in the slightest degree disparaging with reference to Mr. Todd, but that all the feelings expressed with regard to him were kind, considerate, appreciative, and respectful. Mr. O'Callaghan has frequently remarked to me, and in such a manner as to influence my own conduct towards both Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, that we should regard these teachers as having been at an early period selected by the Board for the responsible and important position of organisers, and as having been appointed on account of their experience and high merit, to the charge of the very influential departments which they now occupy. The inference invariably drawn from these considerations was that these teachers were entitled to a large amount of consideration and deference at our hands, and I can safely say that such deference was extended to both of them in a greater measure than I have ever seen equalled in any other case, and that this was done not merely as a matter of form, but cordially and sincerely. The result is such as to convince me that such treatment is looked on as a sign of weakness and as an incentive to aggression. For on no other supposition can I account for the complaints made in the letters forwarded to you by the teachers, these complaints having reference to a statement not merely complimentary, but eulogistic as to them, and the only ground of offence being one which, to an earnest teacher, should afford cause of satisfaction as dealing with a universally recognised defect, the want of supervision by parents as to the preparation of home lessons by their children. It is worthy of remark that in the course of the examination Mrs. Smithies observed, in a very supercilious tone, that she would rather forfeit the benefit of the results' payment than be obliged to submit to the annoyance of the results' examination. And sometime after the examination, when I was, with considerable trouble to myself, having the examination roll drawn up, this roll not having been prepared by the teachers before the examination, and the want of it having delayed my report considerably, when I had occasion to employ one of the assistant female teachers in writing the examination roll, this assistant having been withdrawn under the notice of Mrs. Smithies, and three mistresses having been left in charge of the draft of pupils, a written message was sent to me almost immediately by Mrs. Smithies to the effect that Miss Patton was absent from her division without her (Mrs. Smithies') permission.

With reference to the complaint made by these teachers, that they were not consulted in the preparation of the premium list, I beg to observe that the head inspector and myself regarded ourselves as fully competent to select, on our own examination and our own marking, the pupils who had, by their answering, obtained the highest places in their respective classes. The large money interest which the teachers now personally have in the results of the examination probably rendered us less disposed than formerly to allow the teachers to interfere in our estimate of these results. But on the day preceding that of the public examination, when the head inspector and myself spent about five hours in a careful estimate of the merit of each pupil, it was open to the teachers, as they well knew, to make any suggestions or offer any complaints regarding any of their pupils. On that day Mr. Todd very properly availed himself of this opportunity by coming specially to bring under our notice the case of two boys who had been absent from the examination in arithmetic. He was received with the usual courtesy, and the cases were dealt with to his entire satisfaction; and, on the morning of the public examination day, I went over the premium list with him, explaining the principle on which we had gone in awarding the different classes of premiums. The efforts of the head inspector and myself had been directed towards extending the premium list as far as we could, the number of pupils who had been found deserving of prizes being so very small. It never occurred to us that the teachers would, if we referred to them, try to diminish the number by objecting to some of the pupils, as they appear to have been disposed to do. Certainly, if such grounds of objection existed in any case, the teacher should have taken an opportunity of mentioning them at some one of our many visits to the school. It was not by any means a case for a point of etiquette as to being formally consulted. The head inspector and myself rather dreaded the importunity of the teachers in endeavouring to press the claims of pupils who had not shown



the required standard of merit, we having ourselves stretched as far as we could in the way of extending lenient judgment where it could be done. But Mr. Todd, instead of speaking quietly to us, loudly and angrily interrupted the distribution of the premiums at the close of the public examination, raising a scene painful to us and embarrassing to the Mayor who was giving out the certificates, by stating that one of the boys who was on the list was not entitled to a premium at all, as he had not been in attendance for the past three months. He appears to have overlooked the fact that in that case his name should not have been on the examination roll. Mr. O'Callaghan and myself went into the female school to consult Mrs. Smithies regarding certain premiums on the morning of the examination day, and having sent for her into the class-room, received a reply that she would come in a few minutes. This we both regarded as a very insolent message. I also considered the advice which she gave in the matter as not calculated to increase my dependence on her judgment in such a case.

Though disposed to rely on our own judgment in estimating the results of the examination, I sought, as I have always done, the advice of the teachers in the allocation of the money. This advice was refused by Mr. Todd angrily and offensively. He said it was now too late to come to him for his opinion, and that I should have thought of doing so in time (this was about five minutes after I had sketched out the allocation which I proposed), but that if he found that I had not given fair proportions, he would let me know about it. I mildly requested him to avoid anything which would cause irritation, and to take a proper method of giving effect to his views. He replied that he thought he was taking the proper method. When I reminded him that he had already spoken to me in a manner in which I had never addressed him, and that it was not right for him to do so, he replied that he would prefer a man having the manliness to speak out as he thought, that he could not understand this kind of secret work, and that he had never been treated with such contempt in his life. I, of course, closed the interview at once, without reply. When the premiums were about to be given out by me, Mr. Todd ostentatiously left the room, and so great was the impression produced by his manner, that whereas usually on such occasions the members of the teaching staff show a readiness to assist in obtaining signatures, &c., not one of the pupil teachers ventured to come near, and I was left alone with the pupils during the whole proceedings. Language and conduct of this kind are simply intolerable.

The excuses offered by Mr. Todd for the failures in his department would have been unnecessary had he not brought forward the failure himself. The head inspector and myself had agreed, in consideration of Mr. Todd's general worth as a teacher, which we fully recognised, and the absence of one of the assistants for a short time before the examination, that we would not bring the failure under the notice of the Board, but would confer with Mr. Todd on the subject. The excuses offered I do not consider very candid. During the absence of Mr. McColgan from illness, a substitute was sent for two months, and Mr. Todd stated that he did his work well. Mr. McColgan was absent for a week in August, and there was no one to fill his place in September; the examination was held early in October. I am surprised at the reference to "a staff of not very efficient pupil teachers" as a cause of failure. Since I took charge of the school up to the time of the examination, the staff was kept at the full complement of nine, and I believe that for a long time previously it had been much below that number. Mr. Todd, not very long before the examination, told me that never since the school was established had there been a staff of pupil teachers with whom he had had so much satisfaction, as being quiet, diligent, industrious, and earnest in their work. This statement I repeated soon after to the head inspector as very gratifying to me, inasmuch as I had taken great trouble in selecting and procuring suitable pupil teachers, and had always endeavoured to impress them with a strong sense of duty. "The absence of two of the assistants from their divisions while engaged in teaching singing and drawing in the girls' school," does not affect the question under consideration, as the practice was precisely the same as that followed in previous years. As to the other things not unknown to the inspectors, to which Mr. Todd refers, the statement is too vague to allow of any observations from me. If it had been put in a more definite form, I daresay I could deal with it.

Mr. Todd's reference to the prizes in the infant department is both uncalled for and unbecoming. This department, at the time of examination, had attained the highest attendance it ever had since the opening of the school, and was in a very high state of efficiency. The amount awarded to it was very small in proportion to the attendance, being only 5*l.* out of 65*l.*, and was disposed of admirably by Miss Dugan, under our immediate direction. The course pursued was quite in accordance with that carried out universally in infant departments; there was no reason why Mr. Todd should go out of his way to animadvert upon it, and I do not see that he improves his case by doing so.

It is not correct to say, as Mr. Todd does, that "one teacher is singled out for unqualified praise, while, with regard to the other two, the public are led to believe from the manner in which their schools were referred to, that they had certainly not been doing their duty." The teachers of all the departments were referred to with equal commendation, and Mr. O'Callaghan's expression of compliment referred, and was understood to refer, to all.

There are several portions of Mr. Todd's letter which do not call for comment from me. It is unnecessary that I should refer to his opinion as to the design of public examinations, or to the detail of his labours in connection with the late public examination. These labours were mainly of superintendence, and did not call for such prominent notice. I can safely say that Mr. Todd's school work always had appreciative notice from me.

The only matter introduced into the letter of Mrs. Smithies, in addition to the points

already taken up by me, is where she ventures on the astounding assertion that the failure in her department was due to Mr. O'Callaghan's tone and demeanour towards the teachers. The examination in arithmetic was conducted solely by me; out of 31 pupils in fifth class, not one could be passed in this subject; and of 14 in fourth class, only two passed. My mode of examination was pronounced unexceptionable, and yet in the subjects examined on by me, the failures were most marked, while in those which fell to Mr. O'Callaghan's share, the results were comparatively fair. It is worse than trifling to attempt to account for a complete failure in this way; Mrs. Smithies had previously recourse to various excuses, all of them equally unfounded. Among others, it was strongly alleged that it was owing to the pupils having passed in too high classes last year; but this excuse fell through when I pointed out that above 40 pupils were this year presented for examination in classes higher than required by the regulations. When Mrs. Smithies uses the expression, "if falling-off there really was," with reference to the results of the examination, she shows a very imperfect appreciation of her duties as principal of an important establishment in which the failure was so signal and complete. That there was such a failure should be clear to her, and instead of cavilling and recalcitrating with reference to it, she should have set herself resolutely to effect an improvement. Such a failure should not have occurred under a zealous and watchful principal, aided by so excellent a staff of assistant teachers as are most of those in her department.

I cannot avoid mentioning that these letters to you were followed by a series of anonymous letters in the local papers, containing the same sentiments, and in some instances a remarkable similarity even of expression. Even regarding this similarity of thought and language as a remarkable coincidence merely, the fact that anonymous newspaper writers are in a position to refer to inefficiency in the pupil-teacher staff, want of courtesy in the inspectors' treatment of teachers, the propriety of consulting teachers more as to the allocation of the prizes, and various other such topics, affords a proof of a want of official reticence on the part of those from whom this information was derived, such as should not be found in persons charged with so important a trust. In conclusion, I beg to express regret that extreme pressure of official business, and reluctance to delay my reply, have caused this communication to be written in very great haste, and with less regard to style than I consider desirable. My aim has been, however, to say too little rather than too much in dealing with a case which has caused me much annoyance.

I am, &c.

The Secretaries.

(signed) William Bole, District Inspector.

— No. 9. —

MINUTES of Proceedings of the Board of National Education, dated 3 February 1874.

READ letter 14, District 2—74, from Mr. Bole, district inspector at Derry, on the subject of letters addressed to the secretaries by Mr. Todd, head master, and by Mrs. Smithies, head mistress, of the Derry Model School, relative to certain remarks alleged to have been made by Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, at the public examinations of that school for the year 1873.

Also a letter from Mr. Bole, showing the very irregular attendance of several of the teachers connected with that school.

Ordered, That the consideration of these letters and reports be postponed to this day week, and that the board meet at 2 o'clock for this purpose. That it be intimated in the weekly programme that Mr. Justice Lawson's motion will be submitted to the board at 4 o'clock.

— No. 10. —

MINUTES of Proceedings of the Board of National Education, dated 10 February 1874.

SECRETARY submits letter from Mr. Bole, district inspector at Derry, on the subject of letters addressed to the secretaries by Mr. Todd, head master, and Mrs. Smithies, head mistress, of the Derry Model School, relative to certain remarks alleged to have been made by Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, at the public examinations of that school for the year 1873.

Also a letter from Mr. Bole, showing the very irregular attendance of several of the teachers connected with that school.

The following letters are read by the secretary:—Letter from Mr. Todd, dated 8th November 1873; from Mrs. Smithies, dated 6th November 1873; from Mr. O'Callaghan, dated 17th December 1873; and from Mr. Bole, dated 8th November 1873 and 10th January 1874.

There were also submitted abstracts made out in this office, setting forth the reprimands and admonitions to Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies from the year 1862 to the present time; also

also a return of the irregular attendance of the teachers connected with the girls' department of this school.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies be severely reprimanded for the letters addressed to the secretaries on subjects connected with the recent public examinations at the Derry Model School, in which letters they have brought forward charges against the head inspector which the Commissioners believe to be without any foundation.

The Commissioners warn Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies against a repetition of similar conduct, which will be sure to be visited with very serious consequences.

The Commissioners also admonish Mr. Todd for his unbecoming demeanour towards the district inspector, Mr. Bole, on the morning of the 8th November last.

With reference to the frequent absences and late attendance of Mrs. Smithies, and the other teachers of the girls' department, the Commissioners order that fines commensurate with the amount of dereliction of duty in each case be inflicted.

— No. 11. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to *William Bole, Esq.*,  
District Inspector.

Londonderry Model School.

Sir, Education Office, Dublin, 14 February 1874.

We formally submitted to the Commissioners of National Education, on Tuesday the 10th instant, letters from Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, dated respectively the 8th and 6th November last, together with letters from you and Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, to whom the documents were referred for your observations thereon.

We also submitted to the Commissioners your letter of the 8th November last, in which you bring under their notice Mr. Todd's offensive manner towards yourself personally, and an abstract of the admonitions and reprimands addressed or administered to the teachers, from the year 1862 to the present time.

The Commissioners direct that Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies be severely reprimanded for their letters, addressed to the Secretaries, on subjects connected with the recent public examinations at the Derry Model School, in which letters they have brought forward charges against the head inspector which the Commissioners believe to be without any foundation.

The Commissioners warn Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies against a repetition of similar conduct, which will be sure to be visited with very serious consequences.

The Commissioners also admonish Mr. Todd for his unbecoming demeanour towards you as the district inspector, on the morning of the 8th November last.

We are, &c.

William Bole, Esq.,  
District Inspector.

(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

P.S.—You will call Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies into the inspector's office, and read this letter to them, Mr. O'Callaghan, if at all convenient, being present.

(signed) *J. K.*  
*W.H.N.*

— No. 12. —

(District 2—B.O. 10/2'74.)

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to *A. O'Callaghan, Esq.*, Head Inspector.

Londonderry Model School.

Sir, Education Office, 24 February 1874.

We beg to inform you that the Commissioners have ordered that Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies be severely reprimanded for the letters addressed to us on subjects connected with the recent public examination at the Derry Model School, in which letters they have brought forward charges against you which the Commissioners believe to be without any foundation.

The Commissioners warn Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies against a repetition of similar conduct, which will be sure to be visited with very serious consequences.

The Commissioners also admonish Mr. Todd for his unbecoming demeanour towards the district inspector, Mr. Bole, on the morning of the 8th November last.

With reference to the frequent absences and late attendance of Mrs. Smithies and the other teachers of the girls' department, the Commissioners order that fines commensurate with the amount of dereliction of duty in each case be inflicted.

We are, &c.

A. O'Callaghan, Esq.,  
Head Inspector.

(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*W. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

— No. 13. —

LETTER from William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

Londonderry Model School.—District 2.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 15 March 1874.

I HAVE this day received from Mr. Todd, head master of the Londonderry Model School, the accompanying letter addressed to you, with a request that I would forward it.

I beg to add a word of explanation as to the concluding paragraph referring to reprimands from the year 1872 to the present time. I read your letter to Mr. Todd, he looking on it as I read. At his request I furnished him with a copy of the letter. From the concluding sentence of Mr. Todd's letter it appears that in copying it for him, which I did, amid interruptions, 1872 was written for 1862; such error was obviously one of inadvertence; the original letter was, in accordance with your instructions, read to Mr. Todd.

The Secretaries.

I am, &c.  
(signed) William Bole, District Inspector.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Model School, Londonderry,  
12 March 1874.

Gentlemen,

Enclosed in District 2, Letter 74.

I HAVE been favoured with a copy of your letter of the 14th February 1874, addressed to Mr. Bole, our district inspector, and containing a reply to my communication of the 8th November 1873. In this letter you say that, on the 10th of February last, you "formally submitted to the Commissioners of National Education" the statement of facts embodied in the letter above mentioned, and that the judgment of the Commissioners, after having perused the observations of the head inspector, Mr. O'Callaghan, and those of Mr. Bole, the district inspector, is, that I shall be severely reprimanded for the letter addressed to the Secretaries connected with the recent public examination at the Derry Model School, in which letters you say that I had "brought forward charges against the head inspector which the Commissioners believe to be without any foundation."

The plain practical meaning of this decision is, that the Commissioners, without any proof beyond one-sided evidence, are represented as having declared me guilty of *unveracity* or *untruthfulness* in connection with the statements contained in the letter aforesaid. Although holding a subordinate position in the country's educational service, my character and moral reputation are as dear to me as the fair fame of the highest official in the service can be to himself. I hesitate, moreover, to believe that the Commissioners can have really intended to stigmatise me as they seem to have done by the decision now conveyed to me, unless they had first given me the benefit of a *judicial hearing* in my own defence. This is not only the course required by British justice in regard even to the humblest and meanest of Her Majesty's subjects, but it is the Christian morality inculcated in the "general lesson," which constitutes the basis of national education, namely, that "if we would obey Christ, we must do to others, not as they do to us, but as we would wish them to do to us."

There is not, I am sure, a single State functionary of any description, however exalted, who would not wish his superiors to hear all the evidence he could produce on his own behalf, before adjudging him guilty of untruthfulness and punishing him accordingly.

The teacher of a model school has little besides his character to depend upon, and I respectfully submit that he is entitled to equal justice.

I am not aware of having demeaned myself offensively towards the district inspector on the occasion referred to, as he is a gentleman with whom I have always been anxious to maintain the most amicable relations, as it is both my duty and my interest to do.

In this case, however, I occupy a very disadvantageous position; my letter was in the hands of both the inspectors, and both were cognisant of my statements, whereas I am left in total ignorance of their commentaries, and have had no opportunity either of rebutting or of explaining the matters which they have brought forward; and yet, it is upon these unverified representations that the decision of the Commissioners is made entirely to rest. I am firmly convinced that every statement contained in my letter of November 8th can be established by trustworthy testimony, and further, that neither in the examination of the pupils for the Irish Society's Prizes, nor in the distribution of the latter, were the regulations agreed upon between the Board and the Irish Society observed. In these circumstances, I beg you to lay this letter before the Commissioners, and most respectfully to request on my behalf a stringent, impartial investigation of the whole matter, and if it shall appear in evidence that I have acted the unscrupulous part alleged, and have not, on the contrary, been actuated by an honest desire to promote the interests of education in this quarter, I will humbly submit to any reprimand that may be adjudged.

In your letter you refer to some reprimands supposed to have been conveyed to me from the year 1872 until the present time. I am not aware of any such reprimands, or of any circumstances which could have called them forth.

The Secretaries, Education Office.

I am, &c.,  
(signed) William Todd.

## — No. 14. —

MINUTE of Proceedings of the Board of National Education, dated 14th April 1874.

READ letter received through the district inspector (District 2, No. 74) from Mr. Todd, head master of the Derry District Model National School (who was severely reprimanded by Board's Order of the 10th February 1874, for his conduct in connection with the last public examination) asking for a "stringent impartial investigation of the whole matter."

Ordered, That Mr. Sheridan re-open the whole case, investigating the statements and charges affecting Mr. Todd, as contained in the communications of Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector; and also the statement in the letter of the 12th March, addressed by Mr. Todd, head master, to the Secretaries.

## — No. 15. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to *J. E. Sheridan, Esq.*, Chief of Inspection.

(Letter 74; District 2.—B.O. 14—4—74.)

Sir, Office of National Education, 16 April 1874.

THE Commissioners of National Education have had under consideration a letter, dated 12th ultimo, from Mr. William Todd, head master of the Londonderry District Model School, praying them to institute a "stringent, impartial investigation" into the whole matter for which he was ordered by Board of the 10th of February last to be severely reprimanded.

We are to acquaint you that the Commissioners direct that you are to reopen the whole case, investigating the statements and charges affecting Mr. Todd, as contained in the communications of Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and also the statement in the letter of the 12th ultimo, addressed to us by Mr. Todd, head master.

All the papers connected with the case are forwarded for your information.

We are, &c.,  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

*J. E. Sheridan, Esq.,*  
Chief of Inspection, &c., &c., &c.,  
Office of National Education.

## — No. 16. —

LETTER from *J. E. Sheridan, Esq.*, Chief of Inspection, to the Secretaries to the Board of National Education.

Gentlemen, Imperial Hotel, Londonderry, 1 May 1874.

I HAVE received the annexed note from Mrs. Smithies, requesting "the permission of the Commissioners" that "the causes of her complaint" of the 6th November last, "referring to the late annual examinations," should be inquired into.

I beg you will inform me, as soon as possible, whether I am at liberty to comply with her request.

The Secretaries, (signed) *John E. Sheridan,*  
Education Office, Dublin. Chief of Inspection.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Dear Sir,

66, Great James-street, Londonderry,  
28 April 1874.

INASMUCH as I expected that the causes of my complaint to the Commissioners of the 6th November last, referring to the late annual examinations, would have been investigated in common with those of Mr. Todd, and such not being your intention on the present occasion, I respectfully request, through you, the permission of the Commissioners to inquire into my case, and also to furnish me with any necessary documents or extracts pertaining thereto.

*J. E. Sheridan, Esq.,* I am, &c.,  
The Imperial Hotel, Derry. (signed) *M. J. Smithies.*

## — No. 17. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to J. E. Sheridan, Esq.,  
Chief of Inspection.

Sir,  
In reply to your inquiry, dated 1st instant, we have to inform you that you are to confine yourself strictly to the instructions already received.

J. E. Sheridan, Esq.  
Imperial Hotel, Londonderry.

Office of National Education, 2 May 1874.  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

## — No. 18. —

REPORT of INQUIRY held in Londonderry Model School between the 25th April and the 11th May 1874, by John E. Sheridan, Chief of Inspection, into Charges made by Mr. Todd, Head Master, against the Head and District Inspectors in Charge of the Model School, and also into Charges made by the latter against Mr. Todd.—[With three Appendices and Minutes of Evidence.]

Gentlemen,

Dublin, 30 May 1874.

1. I beg to acquaint you that, in conformity with the Commissioners' order of the 14th ultimo, I proceeded to Derry on the 25th ultimo, and instituted a searching investigation into the complaints made by Mr. Todd, head master of the Derry Model School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and also into the complaints made by these two gentlemen against Mr. Todd; and I have now the honour to report the results of my inquiry for the information of the Board, and to submit the Minutes of Evidence, together with all the official documents which accompanied your letter of instructions dated the 16th ultimo.

2. The complaints which formed the subject of my inquiry are contained in five documents; viz. Mr. Todd's letters of the 8th November and 12th March, Mr. Bole's letters of the 8th November and 10th January, and Mr. O'Callaghan's letter of the 17th December.

Mr. Todd's letters contain four distinct complaints, with each of which I shall deal separately.

3. Mr. Todd complains that Mr. O'Callaghan, in his address to the audience on the last public examination day in the model school (4th November 1873), after passing a high eulogium upon the infant school teacher, referred to the schools of the other two head teachers in terms calculated to bring these teachers into disrepute with the public of Londonderry, and into collision with the parents of their pupils.

This complaint is based upon the following passages in the newspaper report of Mr. O'Callaghan's address, which Mr. Todd annexed to his letter of the 8th November:—

"Our object in the examination was twofold; first to ascertain those pupils who should be raised to higher classes, and in this respect the result was most favourable, over 90 per cent. of those examined being advanced to higher classes.

"The second part of the examination was directed to select the most meritorious pupils, who should receive premiums, and in this, I regret to say, the results were not as favourable as those of the last year's examinations. This was a serious matter, and we were bound to inquire into it; and the result of our inquiry was this: we found the parents were to blame. They had not given that attention that was naturally expected from them, and had not co-operated with the teachers in the education of their children as they should have done. I am glad to have such an opportunity of addressing the parents and friends of the children, who, I believe, must be present in this assemblage. I need hardly tell you that the teachers in this school are the foremost in Ireland. They are certainly distinguished for their attainments in knowledge, as well as for their success in imparting instruction to the children.

"I fondly hope that the few remarks I have just made anent the duty of parents will have a salutary effect on those who are listening to me, and that they will be attended by the very best results I can hope for; namely, that parents and guardians of children will see that their children prepare their lessons at home. The teachers and the school only want the co-operation of parents to make it one of the foremost schools in Ireland of its kind."

Mr. O'Callaghan denies the verbal accuracy of this report. He asserts positively that, in speaking of the parents, he used the expression "some parents," or "several of the parents," and never intended to attribute neglect "to all the parents." He also states positively that he did not say "We were bound to inquire into it," but that he said, "From what transpired during our examination of the classes, and from my own observation previously, I have been led to conclude that there has been neglect on the part of some of the parents with respect to their children's home lessons."

On the other hand, Mr. Todd produced the newspaper reporter and other witnesses to prove that the report was a verbatim report of what was said. It does not seem to me a matter of much importance one way or the other, but a pretty extensive experience has convinced me that a strictly accurate and verbatim report of a speech never appears in a periodical paper, and very rarely even in papers of the first class.

Mr. Todd states that he "by no means intended to impute to Mr. O'Callaghan any desire " to bring the teachers into disrepute or into collision with the parents;" and it cannot be denied that Mr. O'Callaghan, on the occasion referred to, spoke of the teachers in terms of high commendation, and that in attributing the want of progress he had observed in the school to the pupils' neglect of their home lessons, he was only re-echoing the universal and often-repeated complaint of both inspectors and teachers throughout Ireland. But Mr. Todd asserts that:—

"Although Mr. O'Callaghan attributed the alleged falling-off in my school to neglect on the part of the parents, and not to any neglect on my part, that was an explanation which the parents would not and could not accept as satisfactory, and consequently they would conclude that it was merely an excuse made to Mr. O'Callaghan by the teachers to cover their own neglect or want of success." And he adds:—

<sup>a</sup> which was the market day in Derry, I was surrounded by persons asking me to explain the matter, and some of them seemed very angry."

In proof of this, Mr. Todd produced some of the parents, and I doubt not could have produced several.

But although the force of Mr. Todd's reasoning, as given above, may be conceded, still the question to be considered seems to be merely this: did the facts to which he refers constitute such a grievance as may fairly be recognised as warranting him in making his complaint to the Commission without having previously sought redress from his immediate official superiors?

When Mr. Todd became aware that the parents were taking umbrage at Mr. O'Callaghan's remarks respecting them, and were disposed to accuse the teachers of making false charges to him, and to regard them as really accountable for the falling-off in the proficiency, if he represented the matter quietly to the inspectors, and suggested the expediency of their taking some steps to conciliate the parents, and to relieve the teachers from undeserved blame, his course would have been perfectly justifiable, and such as good sense, good feeling, and respect for authority might have been expected to dictate; and considering, as he himself admits, that his relations with Mr. Bole "were of a friendly character," that "nothing had occurred to mar in the slightest degree the friendly character" of those relations, and that his relations with Mr. O'Callaghan had been for years of a "not unfriendly" character, there seems no reason why he should not have expected that his suggestions would be received by these gentlemen in a kindly spirit.

But instead of taking this course, he forwarded an angry complaint to the Commissioners, and I am forced to believe that in doing so he was actuated not by any desire to vindicate his character as a teacher (for his character had not been impugned), but solely by a desire to draw down the censure of the Commissioners upon Mr. O'Callaghan, and thereby to gratify his own feeling of hostility to that gentleman.

For that he entertained a secret grudge of long standing against Mr. O'Callaghan is evident both from the remark he made to Mr. Bole on the 4th November last, that "he did not expect anything better from Mr. O'Callaghan," or, as Mr. Bole states it, "that from Mr. O'Callaghan he had never expected anything like justice or fair play," and also from the following passage in Mr. Bole's evidence:

"While I was living in Colombia, Mr. Todd spoke to me concerning Mr. O'Callaghan in such a manner that I had to stop the interview when I found I could not stop him. At that interview he spoke of Mr. O'Callaghan in such terms that I, having official relations with Mr. O'Callaghan, could not listen to them. He spoke in extremely disparaging terms of him. That was about four years ago, as well as I can remember. It is very painful to me to be obliged to refer to that matter, and I do not wish to go into further particulars. It is only in the interests of truth that I refer to it at all, and I may add that I never mentioned it to Mr. O'Callaghan until the last few weeks."

As regards this complaint then, the conclusion I have arrived at is, that Mr. Todd had no sufficient grounds for making it, and that it was made from an unworthy motive.

4. Mr. Todd's second complaint may be thus stated:

That (a) Mr. O'Callaghan referred to the deficiencies of the classes in his public address; that (b) he attributed these deficiencies "to a cause having no foundation in experience;" and (c) that the real causes of the deficiencies were not unknown to the inspectors, but were not alluded to by Mr. O'Callaghan.

(a) As regards the first part of this complaint, Mr. O'Callaghan's plea is, that "his allusion to these deficiencies" was quite unpremeditated; that he "had not intended beforehand to make any such allusion, and was led to do so only on observing an expression of great surprise on the countenances of the audience at the small number of pupils brought up for premiums."

Mr. Todd endeavored to prove that this plea was an untruthful one. He brought forward a great deal of evidence to prove that from the very commencement of the distribution of the certificates to the close, the gallery was crowded to excess in consequence of

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 62, 55, 56, 66.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 44.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 44.

Minutes of Evidence,  
no. 50, 63, 64.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 48.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 40.

Minors of Evidence,  
p. 47.

Ministry of Education,  
p. 64.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 49.

Minutes of Evidence, pp. 55, 60, 61, 63, 64.

the entire singing class (both boys and girls) having been placed on the gallery simultaneously with the pupils who were to receive premiums, and that therefore the audience could not have noticed any falling-off in the number of the latter as compared with former years.

But, on the other hand, the evidence given by Mr. Speers and Mr. McKemie, the two assistants, the former of whom was in constant attendance upon Mr. O'Callaghan during the proceedings, is quite different.

Mr. Speers says:—"I recollect the pupils being marched in to take their places on the gallery when the distribution of the certificates was about to commence. I was the person whom Mr. O'Callaghan deputed to bring them in. Mr. O'Callaghan handed me the premium lists and directed me to collect the boys and girls whose names were on these lists, and bring them into the gallery. I then proceeded and collected these children and brought them to the gallery. These were the only children who were placed on the gallery at that time. I brought them in myself. I cannot now form any idea of the number of children who were then on the gallery, but the gallery was not crowded at that time. I think Mr. O'Callaghan then announced to the audience that these were the pupils who were to receive certificates, or something to that effect. At this time my singing class was not on the gallery, except such members of the class as were to receive certificates. I did not bring the main portion of my singing class on to the gallery until the business of distributing the certificates was drawing to a close. I had them previously arranged in order near the door. When the children were placed on the gallery, I cannot say whether it was so empty as to attract the notice of the audience. But I did not notice any difference as compared with former years. If the gallery had been only half filled, I think I should have recollected the circumstance."

Mr. McKemie says:—"I was not in the room when the boys were brought in by Mr. Speers to receive their certificates, because at that particular time I had charge of the boys in the yard. I was in the room, however, while Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience, and at that time the gallery was not crowded." The evidence on this point is very conflicting, but I am disposed to regard that of Mr. Speers as the most trustworthy, because he was the person who actually placed the pupils on the gallery, and to attribute the contrary evidence of other witnesses to impressions made upon their minds at a subsequent stage of the proceedings when the gallery was not only occupied by the singing class, but was also invaded by ladies and other members of the audience, and even by boys from extern schools, some of whom are said to have clambered up on the window-sills.

The point, however, is not in itself of much weight, and owes its importance solely to the fact that it was seized upon by Mr. Todd for the purpose of proving that Mr. O'Callaghan's statement was untruthful.

The real question is whether, precluding altogether the irregularity of addressing the audience at all, Mr. O'Callaghan was justified in alluding to the deficiencies of the school. Mr. Todd contends that such a proceeding was wholly unjustifiable, and hence his complaint.

But I do not quite agree with Mr. Todd. If Mr. O'Callaghan referred, in his public address, to neglect or inefficiency on the part of the teachers, to laxity of discipline, or to any deficiency for which it lay with himself or the Commissioners to provide a remedy, the teachers might then have good grounds for complaining. But he did nothing of the kind; he seems to have studiously avoided saying anything calculated to hurt their feelings. He even referred to them in the most laudatory terms, declaring them to be "the foremost teachers in Ireland," and "certainly distinguished for their attainments in knowledge, as well as for their success in imparting instruction to the children;" praises which, I am sorry to be obliged to say, I now believe to have been far beyond their deserts. But, assuming that it was not irregular for him to deliver an address to the audience, I am clearly of opinion that it was not irregular or improper for him to take advantage of the opportunity which the occasion presented of directing the serious attention of parents to a deficiency for which they themselves were responsible, and for which it lay with them, and them alone, to provide a remedy; viz., their children's neglect to prepare their home lessons. But Mr. Todd states, in his letter of the 8th November, that the parents were unjustly blamed, and declares "that in no town in Ireland do the people take a greater interest in the education of their children, or co-operate more heartily with the teachers than they do in Derry." Recollecting this statement, I thought it right to call for the marking papers used by the inspectors at the last annual examination, and having found therein the clearest evidence that the answering of the pupils generally had been excessively unsatisfactory, and having called Mr. Todd's attention to the fact (which he did not attempt to deny), I then asked him did he wish me to understand him to affirm that his pupils generally came well prepared with their home lessons. And his reply was: "I will not say that the pupils of my school always come well prepared in their home lessons: all I will say is, that during the last results year they prepared them as well as in former years." It cannot be necessary for me to point out how essentially different this statement is from that contained in the extract quoted above from Mr. Todd's letter of the 8th November. But there is a part of Mr. Todd's evidence to which I think it necessary to direct particular attention; it is this:—

"For several days after the last public examination, the subject was the theme of common conversation in Derry, and a large number of persons applied to me for explanation."

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 57.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 58.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 47.



"tion; and I certainly felt it due to myself to explain to them that the cause of the deficiency in the school assigned by the head inspector was not the true cause, and I stated what I considered were the real causes; and furthermore, many persons having asked me about the distribution of the premiums and the Irish Society's prizes, I was obliged to say to them that I knew nothing about them, that I had not been consulted by the inspectors; and I have also stated that the regulations agreed upon regarding the Irish Society's prizes had not been carried out."

Now I must say that Mr. Todd's conduct, as here described by himself, appears to me to have been extremely blameworthy. He found a certain degree of irritation existing in the minds of several of the parents; and instead of trying to soothe that irritation, he endeavoured to bring Mr. O'Callaghan's statements into discredit, and to fan the fire of public anger against him and Mr. Bole, gentlemen who had never said an unkind word of him.

(c.) Mr. Todd further complains that the real causes of the deficiencies in his school were well known to the inspectors, and states that "if public reference must be made to any want of success, real or imaginary, in working the school," these causes, or some of them, might have been urged as an excuse for any drawback in the answering of the pupils, in preference to the one given."

Mr. Todd specifies these causes, or most of them:—The inefficiency of one of the assistants throughout the year, in consequence of impaired health; the very moderate efficiency of the staff of pupil teachers; the difficulty of preparing the classes in the higher programmes within an interval of 12 months, &c.

Now all these causes are included in the category of matters which, as I have already said, it could be, in my opinion, most improper and unwise for an inspector to allude to in a public address, because they all point to deficiencies, which it is the business of the inspectors or the Commissioners, and not of the public, to rectify.

In relation to this complaint, it is important to observe that Mr. Todd does not deny that the general proficiency of his classes at the last annual examination was unsatisfactory, and he could not possibly deny it in the face of the evidence furnished by the inspector's marking sheets, and of his own admissions regarding the manner in which that examination was conducted by the inspectors; he says:—

"I have no complaint to make of the manner in which the preliminary examination of my school was conducted by the inspectors. I am of opinion that the pupils got every fair play from them; I thought, indeed, that some of the questions were rather difficult, but I impute no blame on that account. Mr. O'Callaghan's questions I considered very nice and fair. Mr. Bole's were more difficult to answer, but certainly Mr. Bole did not put any question that could be considered unfair. His questions were not difficult, but I thought some of them were put in a form likely to puzzle inexperienced children. Minutes of Evidence, p. 45.

"At the last examination there was nothing, either in Mr. O'Callaghan's manner towards me, or in his mode of examining the classes, that I could take even the slightest exception to." Minutes of Evidence, p. 45.

Now, this being so, the evidence of the inspectors' marking sheets may be accepted as admittedly trustworthy, and I am grieved to say proves beyond all question that the general answering of the classes was excessively unsatisfactory, so unsatisfactory, indeed, that the causes assigned by Mr. Todd (and which, in all fairness, must be regarded as having considerable weight) cannot be held sufficient to account for it.

5. Mr. Todd's third complaint is to the following effect:—

That the head teachers were not consulted by the inspectors on the last occasion, as was the practice in former years, in making out the premium lists; that these lists were made out without the slightest reference to them, direct or indirect; and that even the amount of the premiums was not made known to them.

I am not certain that this complaint is one which deserves to be seriously examined. It seems to be based on some sort of claim on the part of Mr. Todd and Mrs. Smithies, that their judgment should be taken independently of the answering of the pupils, as to the particular boys and girls who should be awarded premiums; and both affirm that some such privilege had always been conceded to them from the opening of the school until the last annual examination. Mr. Todd, indeed, told me that in the early years of the school, the adjudication of the premiums was left entirely in his hands, that it was he who prepared the premium list, and that he then merely submitted it to the inspectors, for their approval.

Admitting that it is just possible, though I must say hardly credible, that this singular privilege was accorded to Mr. Todd in the early years of the model school, I should be very slow to believe that any potential voice in the adjudication of the premiums was conceded to him for many years past, seeing that his relations with every one of Mr. Bole's predecessors, Mr. Graham, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Dugan, were of the most unsatisfactory character, and that in the model school orderly book there is a notice, under date 6th March 1869, addressed to him by Mr. Dugan, that in consequence of the language used towards him by Mr. Todd, their communication should thenceforth be carried on in writing only.

But whether or not this privilege was conceded to Mr. Todd in former years, I am quite of opinion that it should not be continued, particularly now that teachers, as Mr. Bole remarks, have so large a pecuniary interest in the answering of their pupils, and also in

view of the exceedingly unsatisfactory manner in which Mr. Todd's pupils acquitted themselves at the last annual examination.

But if Mr. Todd's complaint amounts merely to this, that he was not made acquainted with the names, &c., of the pupils selected for premiums until the distribution of the certificates had actually commenced, his own evidence proves that it was altogether his own fault. I beg to call particular attention to the following extracts:—

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 46.

"On the morning of the public examination day, being anxious to know something about the premiums, I watched for Mr. Bole, and when he arrived,\*\*\*\* I went into his office, and said to him, 'What about the premium list?\*\*\* I should like to see it.' He took the premium list and went over towards the window as if he did not wish me to see it, and said he would read it for me, and he did read it; he read the names of the boys, but did not read the sums allocated. I expected he would have handed the list to me in order that I might look it over and examine it, but as I saw that he was not disposed to do that, I left the office without saying anything further.\*\*\*\*\* The fact is, I did not take much interest in the matter, as I had expected that I should have had an opportunity of examining the list, and not having been given that opportunity, it was merely through politeness that I remained until the reading of the names had been finished."

In conjunction with this evidence it is only fair to place that of Mr. Bole, with whom, up to that moment, Mr. Todd had maintained friendly relations:

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 32, 33.

"When Mr. Todd asked to see the premium list, I read out the names for him, and was proceeding to explain the course we had followed, when he left the office. I have heard Mr. Todd's statement that when he asked to see the premium list, I moved away towards the window as if to prevent him from looking at it. I was quite astonished on hearing him make that statement. I had no such intention, and up to the moment when Mr. Todd made that statement, I was under the impression that he saw every name on the list as I read it; I certainly intended that he should."

As regards Mr. Todd's complaint, that even the amount of the premiums was not made known to him, Mr. Bole accounts for this, as follows:—

"When I read the names for Mr. Todd, I did not read out the value of each premium. I had no reason whatever for not doing so, except that the money values of the premiums were at that time only roughly determined, subject to modifications afterwards."

A few days after, when Mr. Bole requested Mr. Todd to assist him in settling these very money values, the following is Mr. Todd's own account of what occurred:—

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 47.

"I looked at him with astonishment on hearing him ask me to assist him in allocating the premiums just at the time when they were about to be paid, and I replied: 'Oh no, it is too late now to ask my assistance; as you have had the honour of doing that business up to this, I will allow you to finish it.' and I added, 'If the boys' school does not get its due proportion, I will take care that the matter shall be represented to the Board.'"

6. I now come to the last, and by far the most serious charge advanced by Mr. Todd against the inspectors: viz., "That neither in the examination of the pupils for the Irish Society's prizes, nor in the distribution of the latter, were the regulations, agreed upon between the Board and the Irish Society, observed."

These prizes were first introduced in 1844, and the following is a copy of the regulations taken from the head inspector's annual report upon the Derry Model School for that year.

#### (EXTRACT.)

THE Honourable the Irish Society's Prizes to be competed for by the pupils attending this school.

#### Boys' School.

Class V. - First prize	"	"	5	Second prize	"	"	"	4
Class IV.	"	"	5	"	"	"	"	3
Class III.	"	"	3	"	"	"	"	2
Second Class	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	1

For proficiency in drawing, two prizes:

Free hand drawing, 30 s.; architectural drawing, 30 s.

For proficiency in elements of physical sciences, two prizes: first prize, 2 l.; second prize, 1 l.

Total amount of prizes to be distributed to boys' school is 80 l. annually.

#### Girls' School.

Class V. - First prize	-	-	4	Second prize	-	-	2 30
Class IV.	-	-	3	"	-	-	nil.
Class III.	-	-	2	"	-	-	1 -
Second Class	-	-	1	"	-	-	nil.

For proficiency in drawing, two prizes.

First prize, 30 s.; second prize, 15 s.

For proficiency in needlework, two prizes: plain 1 l.; fancy 1 l.

Miner's text book, Hall's Manual, two prizes: first prize 1 l. 10 s.; second prize 35 s.

Total amount of prizes to be distributed in girls' school is 20 l. annually.

## CONDITIONS.

1. A pupil to be eligible for any of these prizes must have been enrolled on the books of the school for a period of at least nine months immediately preceding the examination, and must have attended on at least 80 per cent. of the school days.

But any pupil *bona fide* absent from illness for a period not exceeding one week in each quarter, or three weeks in the nine months, will be eligible to compete, provided that his attendance during the rest of the period, viz., the nine months, deducting the days on which the pupil was absent from illness, average 80 per cent. of the school days.

2. No pupil to be eligible for a prize in two successive years, unless examined in a higher class than that in which he or she obtained a prize in the preceding year.

This condition to extend to all subjects except drawing, music, and physical science, in any of which subjects the pupil may obtain prizes in successive years, although not advanced in literary classification.

3. A pupil failing to obtain a minimum number of marks in any of the two subjects prescribed in the programme (although his or her marks may on the whole be the highest) will not be eligible for a prize.

4. In some of the subjects, in at least arithmetic, geography, grammar, Euclid, and algebra, the examination of the boys and girls in three of these subjects to be partly oral, and partly by printed questions; a printed paper also to be given in physical science.

5. The examination to be held annually by the head and district inspectors, and the prizes to be distributed at the public examination.

The prizes to be accompanied by a parchment certificate.

Having requested Mr. Todd to give me a precise statement in writing of the grounds upon which he based this charge he furnished me with the following:—

"The above conditions were not observed by the inspectors at the examination of the schools in 1873.

(1.) "There were no printed, or even written questions (see Condition 4).

(2.) "The prizes were not only not distributed, but the sums given to the pupils were not announced on the day of examination, except in the case of the first in each school.

"It is but right to observe here, that I heard Mr. Bole say he could not get the money from the Irish Society's agent at the time of the examination, but the amount in each case might have been read out (see Condition 5).

(3.) "The prizes were different both as to number and amount from those arranged by the Irish Society and the Board.

(4.) "There were prizes given for subjects other than those decided upon in the above arrangements; French, for instance."

With reference to this statement I have to observe—

(a.) That it is quite true that printed questions were not used at the examination of 1873, but it is equally true, so far as I could ascertain, that printed questions were never used except on the very first occasion in 1865. This charge, therefore, applies not merely to the examination of 1873, but also to the examinations of the seven previous years, and not to Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole only, but to their predecessors, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Dugan.

(b.) Mr. Todd's assertion that "even written questions" were not used is quite untrue. A considerable portion of the examination of the senior classes having been conducted by means of written exercises, and Mr. Todd himself admits this in his evidence, where he states "that the examination was not wholly oral; it was partly written and partly oral."

(c.) It is true that the Society's prizes were not distributed at the public examination in 1873, partly for the reason assigned by Mr. Todd, that Mr. Bole had not the money in hand at the time, and partly because it has never been the practice to distribute the money at the examination.

It is also true that the money values of the prizes (except the first or highest prize) were not announced at the examination, and the reason assigned by the inspectors is, that having been pressed for time they were unable to fix these values definitely; "the money values of the premiums were at that time only roughly determined subject to modifications afterwards."

Mr. O'Callaghan also informed me that it has never been his practice to announce at the public examinations the money values of any, but the higher prizes.

(d.) As regards Mr. Todd's complaint that the prizes awarded in 1873 were different both as to number and amount from those prescribed in the society's regulations, and that a prize was given for French, a subject not included in the regulations, I have to observe that the statement is quite true. According to the regulations the 30 £ granted for prizes in the boys' department should have been divided into 12 prizes, varying in value from 5 £ to 1 £, whereas in 1873, the above sum was actually divided into 30 prizes, varying in value from 2 £ 10 s. to 6 s. 6 d., and one prize of the value of 10 s. 6 d. was awarded for proficiency in French.

But the inspectors say that in deviating from the regulations in these respects they only followed precedents established by their predecessors, Mr. Fleming and Mr. Dugan; and, certainly,

certainly, although Mr. Todd's complaint is so worded as to lead to the conclusion that the irregularity occurred at the annual examination of 1873 only, the evidence undoubtedly proves that the regulations referred to were observed only in the very first year in which they came into operation, viz., in 1866; that in 1866 they were departed from in certain particulars, and that in 1867 (i.e. before Mr. O'Callaghan and long before Mr. Bole had any connection with the Derry Model School) they were almost entirely ignored, and seem to have been ever since regarded by the inspectors as no longer binding.

The evidence also goes to prove that Mr. Todd himself must have been a consenting party to those very deviations from the regulations, which he now makes the subject of his charge against Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole, for he asserts that on all occasions previous to 1873 he was consulted by the inspectors in making out the premium lists; and Mr. Bole states, that in 1872; when he himself evinced a disposition to adhere strictly to the regulations as regards the number and value of the prizes, Mr. Todd objected, stating that "it would be quite ridiculous to give a prize of 5*l.* to a pupil who was about to leave the school," and that, accordingly, "the highest prize was fixed with Mr. Todd's full consent at 2*l.*" instead of 5*l.*, as required by the society's regulations.

It is worthy of note that this complaint advanced by Mr. Todd on the 12th March 1874, is the very first complaint made by him as regards the Irish Society's prizes either to the Commissioners, the head inspectors, or the district inspectors.

It is true he states in his evidence that "shortly after Mr. Bole came to Derry" he "complained of the matter to him;" but Mr. Bole distinctly states that although Mr. Todd did inform him "that the regulations had not been carried out," the information "was not in the nature of a complaint;" and the fact that on that occasion Mr. Todd himself objected to the regulations being carried out, fully confirms this statement of Mr. Bole's.

Mr. Todd also states that on one occasion he "brought the matter under the notice of Mr. Green, the Society's agent, and that he expressed his disapproval of the infringements of the regulations. Mr. Dugan was then the district inspector, and Mr. O'Callaghan the head inspector" in charge of the model school; but Mr. Todd admits that he "had not previously brought the matter under the notice of these inspectors," and that he did not subsequently apprise them of the nature of his interview with Mr. Green. He asserts, however, that he told Mr. Bole of it shortly after he came to Derry. This Mr. Bole denies; and Mr. O'Callaghan says, "I certainly feel aggrieved that he (Mr. Todd) should have made such a complaint to Mr. Green and kept me entirely in the dark about the whole transaction."

An explanation of Mr. Todd's conduct on the occasion referred to is not far to seek. He was at that time in open revolt against his district inspector, Mr. Dugan, as he had previously been against Mr. Dugan's predecessors, Mr. Graham and Mr. Porter, and as he now is against Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole; and there can hardly be a shadow of doubt that his object in secretly complaining to Mr. Green was not to obtain redress for a grievance or correction of an irregularity, but simply to bring Mr. Dugan into trouble and disrepute.

Taking all the foregoing facts into consideration, I am led to the conclusion that this charge advanced by Mr. Todd against his official superiors, while being literally true, is excessively disingenuous, inasmuch as it imputes to Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole the sole responsibility for irregularities which in reality were traditional, having been transmitted to them from their predecessors in office, and to which irregularities during the seven years preceding 1873 Mr. Todd himself must have been a consenting party.

7. I have now to deal with the charges preferred by the inspectors against Mr. Todd. They are three in number. The first is:

That Mr. Todd "loudly and angrily interrupted the distribution of the premiums at the close of the last public examination, raising a scene painful to the inspectors and embarrassing to the Mayor, who was giving out the certificates, by stating that one of the boys who was on the list was not entitled to a premium at all, as he had not been in attendance for the past three months."

If this charge, which is copied from Mr. Bole's letter of the 10th January last, and is substantially the same as that contained in Mr. O'Callaghan's letter of the 12th December, be well founded, there can be no doubt of the justice of Mr. O'Callaghan's remark respecting it: "That so seditious and wanton a proceeding has never yet been attempted by any teacher of a model school but himself."

Before dealing with the charge it will be convenient to state the admitted facts of the case.

The boy referred to was a pupil of the third class, named Samuel Knox. This lad during the first nine months of the results' year which ended the 30th September 1873, had made 159 attendances, but he ceased to attend after the 30th June, having been brought to the seaside for the benefit of his health, and as the school fee for the quarter commencing the 1st July was not paid in advance, his name was struck off the roll. He was, therefore, ineligible for examination for either result fees, or one of the Irish society's prizes, his name not having been on the roll of the school at the close of the results' year. But having been re-admitted in October, shortly before the annual results' examination commenced, his name was entered on the examination roll contrary to the Board's regulations, and he was presented for examination to the inspectors, and was by them not only passed for results' fees, but was also selected for one of the Irish Society's prizes. The inspectors did not scrutinise the examination roll; taking for granted, it seems, that it had been prepared in strict accordance with the regulations of the Board, and no intimation whatever of the boy's ineligibility

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 65, 66, 67.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 62.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 63.

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 46, 47.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 63.

Mr. Bole's Letter,  
10 January 1874.

was given to them, until on the day of the public examination he was actually called down from the gallery to receive the certificate from the mayor, when Mr. Todd called attention to the fact that he was ineligible in consequence of his not having attended for the last three months.

The above are the facts about which there is no question. But as regards Mr. Todd's manner and the language he used on the occasion, the evidence is very conflicting. I shall begin with Mr. Todd's own account of the affair:—

"Until I heard Samuel Knox's name read out at the distribution of certificates on the public day I was not aware that he was ineligible for a prize from the Irish Society's fund. But when his name was called out."

Minutes of Evidence, pp. 45, 46.

"I then remembered that he had not been in attendance for the last three months, and was therefore ineligible. I was standing in front of the gallery, and I merely stooped down and said to either Mr. O'Callaghan or Mr. Bole (I forget which), 'I beg pardon, but that boy is ineligible, for he was absent for the last three months; I am almost sure that these were the words I used; I certainly did not speak in a loud or angry tone of voice. My object was merely to correct what appeared to be a mistake. I had no intention of conveying that the mistake was intentional. Mr. O'Callaghan said, 'Never mind,' or something to that effect, and nothing more was said by any one so far as I can remember, and there was no interruption of the proceedings."

"My remark could not have been heard by any person who was not standing immediately beside me; I don't think it could have been heard by the pupils on the gallery, or at most by one or two."

"This is Mr. Todd's version of the incident, and in sustinment of it he produced several witnesses, some of whom testified that although they were present during the distribution of the certificates, and were in positions favourable for observing what took place, they did not notice any interruption of the proceedings, did not hear Mr. Todd make any remark whatever, and could not have failed to hear him had he said anything "in a loud and angry tone of voice."

The following are the names of the witnesses who gave negative evidence of this sort:—

Miss McCormac, assistant in infant school.  
Miss Patton, assistant in girls' school.  
Miss Dugan, infant school mistress.  
Miss Bailey, pupil teacher.  
Miss McClure, mistress.  
Mrs. McGaw, one of the pupil's parents.  
Mrs. Gellanith, one of the pupil's parents.  
Mrs. McClelland, one of the pupil's parents.  
Mr. Alexander Adams, newspaper reporter.

Minutes of Evidence, pp. 60, 61, 62, 63.

But several other witnesses gave evidence of a different character.

The Mayor of Derry, who distributed the certificates, recollects that "Mr. Todd did make some objection," stating "that the pupil in question had not been as regular in his attendance as he ought to have been, or something to that effect;" thinks "Mr. Todd made the remark merely as a kind of passing observation, and not in a loud or angry tone of voice;" and states that according to his recollection, "there was not any interruption of the proceedings, even for a minute," and that if he (the mayor) had felt annoyed or disconcerted, "he should have remembered it."

Minutes of Evidence, p. 55.

This evidence was given by the mayor on the last day but one of the inquiry, viz., on the 8th May. But 10 days previously, when he was going to Dublin, I waited on him and requested him to give me an account according to his recollection of the alleged occurrence at the last public examination. He stated in general terms his entire satisfaction with the whole proceedings, that he felt greatly gratified at the part he had been selected to take, that everything went on smoothly and seemed to afford great pleasure to every person concerned, the parents, inspectors, teachers, and pupils. But on my directing his attention to the particular incident about which I desired information, he at once replied, "Well, well, I would not commit myself by taking my memory about it." This reply his worship repeated two or three times, and finally, as he was much pressed for time, put an end to the interview without giving me any more definite information. Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole were present. I had written to Mr. Todd also requesting him to be in attendance, but my note did not reach him in time. I learned subsequently from Mr. Todd, however, that he had had a previous interview with the mayor the same morning, had submitted to him copies of Mr. O'Callaghan's and Mr. Bole's remarks regarding the incident in question, and had obtained from his worship a written statement in reference thereto.

This document Mr. Todd afterwards handed to me as evidence, and it is as follows:—

"The written statement I have just read with astonishment, and only regret my having to go to Dublin this morning prevents my being able to attend at the investigation; as to the facts stated, which I must beg leave to say, that I am not aware of anything unpleasant to me or any one else occurred at the public examination held at the model school referred to, took place, but just the contrary, as we were all much pleased and delighted in the way it was conducted, both by the inspectors and the head master, Mr. Todd."

(signed) Henry Dureau, J.P., Mayor of Derry.

22nd of April 1874.

When Mr. Todd handed me this document, I explained to him what had taken place at my own interview with the mayor, and added that as the latter had declined to give me any definite information regarding the incident in question, I should not be able to attach much weight to a document couched in such very general terms. This was probably the reason why Mr. Todd induced the mayor to attend the inquiry in person on his return to Derry from Dublin.

From his worship's written statement and oral evidence taken together, it seems perfectly clear that the incident had made but a very slight impression upon him, and had not annoyed or "disconcerted," or "embarrassed" him in the least. I have further to observe that his worship, who seems to be a most benevolent and amiable gentleman, was extremely reluctant to say anything that might prove injurious to any party.

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 55, 56.

Mrs. Smithies, the head mistress, who states she "was quite near the gallery, and near the mayor also," "perhaps at a distance less than two yards from the mayor," and "near enough to Mr. Todd to hear him if he spoke," recollects "Mr. Todd saying something about a premium to Mr. O'Callaghan," but that "it made no impression" on her, and she "did not hear at the time what was actually said;" she "did not understand that Mr. Todd was making any objection to the certificate being given to the pupil;" "did not observe that the proceedings were interrupted by anything done by Mr. Todd;" "no scene occurred," "Does not think it likely that two dozen people could have heard distinctly what Mr. Todd said on the occasion," and says "most distinctly that he did not speak in a loud voice."

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 56, 57.

Mr. Speers, one of the assistants, gave the following evidence:—  
"I remember Mr. Todd making an objection to a certificate being given to a certain boy. The boy's name was Samuel Knox, and he is my brother-in-law."  
"I was standing near the inspectors, and while Samuel Knox was coming down from the gallery to receive his certificate, I was in the act of handing another certificate up to a boy who had been unable to get down from the gallery, and my back was partly turned to the mayor. While so engaged, I heard Mr. Todd saying something to the effect that Samuel Knox was not eligible for a premium, and on turning then round I saw the certificate in the boy's hand. He was then in the act of coming back to the gallery. I do not recollect anything else that may have occurred as regards Samuel Knox. When I turned round I did not look at Mr. Todd. It did not occur to me to do so, although the matter had reference to my own brother-in-law. My recollection does not enable me to say whether or not Mr. Todd made the remark in a loud or angry tone of voice. I could not think it was made in a loud or angry tone of voice, because I was close to him, and I believe I should have heard it. But I was endeavouring to keep the pupils quiet in the gallery, because, from the noise that was prevalent, some of them could not hear their names when called out. I was myself unable to hear everything that was said by the inspectors and the mayor; occasionally I could hear some of the children's names called out, but only occasionally."

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 58.

Mr. McKenzie, another of the assistants, says:—  
"I was exactly behind Mr. O'Callaghan. I distinctly remember that when Samuel Knox's name was called out, and he came down to receive his certificate, Mr. Todd said, 'That boy is not entitled to that prize,' or some words to that effect."  
"When the remark was made I looked at Mr. Todd, and saw that he was dissatisfied. The remark was made in a loud voice, and in a tone that expressed dissatisfaction."  
"When Mr. Todd made the remark, the boy's father came over and looked at the certificate. Just at that moment a gentleman, who was sitting close to me, asked me if I thought Mr. O'Callaghan would speak with him, and this drew my attention away from what was taking place, and therefore I did not see what Mr. O'Callaghan or the mayor did, or hear what either said; but when I again looked round, I saw the boy going away with his certificate in his hand. Mr. Todd's remark should have been heard by the pupils on the gallery, and also by the persons in the immediate vicinity of the mayor."

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 58, 59.

Mr. Robert M'Vicker, one of the parents, who was standing "quite close to Mr. O'Callaghan," gave the following evidence:—

"I recollect that when the certificates were being distributed by the mayor, Mr. Todd stated, as regards one boy, that he was not entitled to a certificate, as he had been three months absent. He stated that to Mr. O'Callaghan. What he said might have been heard by a couple of dozen of the audience, and of course the children who were on the gallery must have heard it. It was not said in a loud or angry tone of voice. Mr. Todd merely told Mr. O'Callaghan the circumstance. It caused no interruption whatever of the proceedings, as Mr. O'Callaghan said, 'Oh, never mind.' I did not hear the mayor make any remark. The mayor did not appear to have been disconcerted by the remark; nothing of the sort. I saw nothing in the countenance calculated to give offence to the inspector, or to embarrass the mayor. But the impression it left on my mind was that it should not have occurred at that time, that it should have been previously settled in private between the inspectors and Mr. Todd."

"I am quite sure that Mr. Todd's remark regarding the boy not being entitled to a certificate"

"acute did not produce any interruption of the proceedings, except just for the second "during which the words were spoken. I cannot, however, rely upon my memory for the "exact words that were spoken, or for what exactly took place; but if there had been a "scene, I should certainly have remembered it. I think the occurrence must have been "unpleasant to both inspectors. I cannot say that it should be described as 'painful.' "Mr. Todd did not speak disrespectfully to them. I recollect his commencing what he "said, with the words, 'I beg your pardon, Mr. O'Callaghan, that boy is not entitled to "that.' I have a very distinct recollection of that. I really do not think Mr. Todd's "object could have been accomplished more quietly than it was."

Thinking that the boy himself, Samuel Knox, might be able to give me some information on the subject, I sent for him to the schoolroom, but found him to be a very delicate, timid, and nervous little boy, seemingly about eight years of age, though entered as of 10 in the books, and quite unable to recollect anything connected with the occurrence. The probability is that the child was in a state of excitement and flurry when called down to receive the certificate, and quite incapable of comprehending Mr. Todd's remark. I judged it useless, therefore, to subject him to a formal examination.

As it struck me as curious that Samuel Knox's father was not produced, remembering that Mr. McKensie had stated that he was present on the occasion, "and came over and looked at the certificate," when Mr. Todd made the remark, I sent for him and questioned him regarding the occurrence. His evidence was very evasive. At first he said he could not recollect whether or not he was present at the last distribution of premiums in the model school; he was not sure; he could not be certain about it; thought he was present in 1872. If he were present when Mr. Todd stated in public that his son was not entitled to the certificate he was getting, and if he then went over and looked at the certificate, he thought he could not have forgotten the circumstance. Had never heard of the circumstance until a day or two ago.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 60.

It was made manifest, however, by an inadvertent expression of his, that his recollection was not quite as defective as he represented it to be. For, after saying that Mr. Todd had been asking him about the occurrence, he added, evidently through inadvertence, "It was "only when he spoke to me that I remembered I was in the schoolroom towards the latter "part of the proceedings;" but he asserted that he "was never nearer to the gallery than "about six yards during the time." Had no recollection of having seen his son there; did not suppose he would have gone there if he had not children at the school, and yet he could not remember whether he saw any of them on the gallery.

I called in Mr. Speers, his son-in-law, and asked him, was Mr. Knox present at the distribution of the certificates, but his memory proved quite as defective as his father-in-law's. He said he really could not recollect whether he had seen his father-in-law in the schoolroom on the day of the public examination.

I fully believe Mr. McKensie's evidence on this point, however, and am satisfied that Mr. Knox was present, and that both he and his son-in-law could have given me precise information regarding the occurrence, if they had chosen to tell the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Mr. O'Callaghan's account of the occurrence is as follows:—

"I have a very vivid recollection of what occurred when Samuel Knox's name was "called out. I have heard Mr. Todd's statement regarding that incident, and I say that "it is wholly incorrect. What really took place was this: Samuel Knox had just received "his certificate, when Mr. Todd stepped forward, and while at a distance of about a yard "from the mayor pointed his finger at the boy, and exclaimed, in a threatening manner, "'That certificate has been wrongfully given.' That is my recollection of the words used. "I do not recollect having heard any other words; something else may have been said, "but I was so confounded by the incident that I lost my presence of mind for a while. "I stooped down and "looked at the boy's certificate, because I thought that possibly we might have made a "mistake as to the boy; but I found the certificate all right. Just then the mayor turned "to me and said, 'What is the matter,' or, 'What is all this about;' and I said to him, "'Mr. Todd has just made some objection or other to the giving of the certificate.' Then "the mayor said to me, 'Oh, I suppose we had better go on;' and then the distribution of "the certificates was recommenced."

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 61.

Mr. Boyle's statement is as follows:—

"I have a pretty distinct recollection of the entire incident regarding Samuel Knox "and a very clear recollection of some parts of it. "I took notice of Mr. Todd's manner on the occasion, and it made a most profound impression on me. He spoke in a loud and angry tone. "As nearly as I can recollect, the purport of his words was, 'That certificate should not "have been given; that boy is not entitled to an Irish Society's premium, and he is not "entitled to any premium, for he has not been at school for three months.' I am quite "certain that that was substantially what he said, and it was said in a tone which impressed "me as loud and angry. I certainly felt it as an act of disrespect to me and Mr. O'Callaghan. I can easily imagine that it would not make the same impression on the mayor "as on persons officially connected with the school and with Mr. Todd. I cannot account "for the mayor not having taken notice of Mr. Todd's threatening manner, and loud and "angry"

Minutes of Evidence,  
pp. 61, 62.

"angry tone; but from his suavity of disposition, he would be inclined to look lightly upon "any incident of that kind."

I have now gone over all the evidence adduced in relation to this charge, which I regard as being the most serious of all the charges which formed the subject of my inquiry.

Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. Bole did not produce any witnesses. Mr. Todd put this question to Mr. Bole towards the close of the investigation:—

"If the incident respecting Samuel Knox was such as Mr. O'Callaghan and you have described, it must have been notorious to a large number of the audience; and is it not strange, then, that you have not called a single witness to testify as to what really occurred?"

To this question Mr. Bole made the following reply:—

"I do not think it at all strange, \* \* \* because I do not see that any such evidence on our part was at all necessary, as I am perfectly satisfied that that complaint should be decided on the evidence already brought forward. Besides, I should feel a very strong objection to going to people for the purpose of ascertaining whether they were present on the occasion, whether they had any recollection of the occurrence, and whether they would come forward to verify my own statements."

It remains for me to state the conclusion I have arrived at after a full consideration of the evidence:—

That evidence, as I have already said, was very conflicting. Several of the witnesses who were in a position to see and hear what occurred, saw or heard nothing of it. Others who heard Mr. Todd's remark regarding Samuel Knox (the mayor, for instance), attached no importance to it, considering it a mere passing observation; but others (Mr. McKemie and Mr. M'Vicker) evidently regarded it in a different light. These differences, however, can be easily accounted for. In the first place, the incident occupied only a minute or two of time, if even so much, and in the next place the schoolroom appears to have become at that time a scene of noise, confusion, and disorder, to such an extent that even the pupils on the gallery could not hear their names called out. Under such circumstances, it cannot be surprising that the incident should have escaped the attention of many persons in the immediate vicinity, and that the impression made upon such as did notice it should have been so very different from that which it produced on the minds of the persons primarily concerned; namely, the inspectors. It seems very probable, too, that the latter, regarding it as an outrage upon their feelings, may have been unconsciously led to describe it in terms unnecessarily strong. It does not seem, for instance, to have caused any serious interruption of the proceedings, and there is certainly nothing to show that it "disconcerted" or embarrassed the mayor.

But taking the evidence of Mr. McKemie and Mr. M'Vicker in connection with that of the inspectors themselves, I am perfectly satisfied that neither in act nor in motive was the incident of that mild, innocent, and merely incidental character attributed to it by Mr. Todd himself.

The boy was undoubtedly ineligible for an Irish Society's prize; he was also ineligible for examination for results fees; yet he was duly examined for both, and not the slightest intimation of his ineligibility was given to the inspectors while the examination was going on. Mr. Todd states that it was only when he heard Samuel Knox's name called out on the public day that he remembered he was ineligible. Is this credible? Why did he remember it even then? It was because he had a few weeks previously with his own hand struck the boy's name off the roll for continued absence, without having paid this quarter's fee in advance. Is it credible, then, that he should have remembered this fact in the midst of the noise, confusion, and excitement that prevailed on the public day, and that he had not remembered it during the preliminary examination of this boy, or when Mr. Bole read for him the names on the premium list in his office on the morning of the public examination day? I cannot believe any such thing; and even if I did believe it, I should nevertheless be of opinion that Mr. Todd should not have made his objection when he did, and that to pronounce Samuel Knox ineligible (and on a mere technicality, too) in the presence of the public and his schoolfellows, and when he was in the very act of receiving his certificate, argued a gross disregard for the feelings of the boy. But I cannot believe Mr. Todd's statement; on the contrary, having in mind the temper Mr. Todd was in that morning when he was not furnished with an opportunity of criticising the inspector's adjudication of the premiums, the pains he took on the following day to prejudice the parents and others against Mr. O'Callaghan, and his disrespectful, and indeed insolent conduct towards Mr. Bole a few days after, I feel perfectly satisfied that his object in making the objection on so public an occasion was not, as he asserts, "merely to correct what appeared to be a mistake," but to wound the feelings of the inspectors, and to bring shame and discredit upon them in the face of a public audience.

8. The second charge made by the inspectors against Mr. Todd may be thus stated:—

That Mr. Todd's and Mrs. Smithie's letters of complaint "were followed by a series of anonymous letters in the local papers, containing the same sentiments, and in some instances a remarkable similarity even of expression," thus affording proof, either that these letters had been directly inspired by these teachers, or that they (the teachers) were guilty of a want of official reticence such as should not be found in persons charged with so important a trust.



Five of the anonymous letters referred to, cut out of the newspapers in which they appeared, have been placed in my hands, and will be found posted on the opposite page (see Appendix).

They speak for themselves. Any person who will take the trouble to compare them with Mr. Todd's letters of complaint, will at once see that they treat of the same matters, and that the inspectors could not have arrived at any other conclusions respecting them than that if not actually written or directly inspired by Mr. Todd, the subject-matter of them must have been communicated to the writers by him.

Regarding this charge, Mr. Todd's statement is as follows:—

"I deny, most decidedly, that I had anything to do, directly or indirectly, with the publication of these letters. I can account for the identity of subjects and similarity of expression in these letters in this way: for several days after the last public examination, the subject was the theme of common conversation in Derry, and a large number of persons applied to me for explanation, and I certainly felt it due to myself to explain to them that the cause of the deficiency in the school assigned by the head inspector was not the true cause, and I stated what I consider were the real causes, and furthermore, many persons having asked me about the distribution of the premiums and the Society's prizes, I was obliged to say to them that I knew nothing about them, that I had not been consulted by the inspectors, and I also stated that the regulations agreed upon regarding the Society's prizes had not been carried out. In this way the writers of the letters referred to would naturally touch upon the same subjects as were contained in my letters of complaint, and would occasionally use pretty much the same language. Had I written these letters myself, or got them written by others, I would not have been so unguarded as to employ the same or similar expressions as those set forth in my own letter."

Minutes of Evidence, pp. 47, 48.

With reference to this statement, Mr. O'Callaghan made the following remarks:—

"Accepting Mr. Todd's own explanation, I think it may fairly be inferred therefrom that he inspired these letters. But supposing that he neither wrote them himself nor inspired them, I think it is plain that he allowed himself to be betrayed into a violation of that official reserve and reticence which might be expected from a head master of a model school, and of the loyalty which he owes to the Commissioners. He seems to have brought under the notice of the persons he talked with outside many things which, even admitting that he felt himself aggrieved, he should not have made public; and I am of opinion that he contributed a great deal to setting the city on fire over our heads. He admits that he spoke freely regarding the inefficiency of the pupil teachers, the want of courtesy on the part of the inspectors towards the teachers, the distribution of the Irish Society's prizes, and other matters; and I regard such conduct as excessively improper, the more particularly as he had not previously manifested any dissatisfaction to us with our proceedings, except what occurred at the distribution of the premiums on the public day."

Minutes of Evidence, p. 51.

It cannot, I think, be denied that there is a great deal of justice in these remarks of Mr. O'Callaghan, and I am entirely of opinion that, acquitting Mr. Todd of having been himself the author of these letters, his own statement of what he said and did sufficiently proves that he was guilty, not only of a want of that "official reticence" which should always be observed by a person "charged with so important a trust," but also a want of ordinary respect and consideration for the honour and feelings of his superior officers.

8. The third charge against Mr. Todd is that preferred by Mr. Bole, to the effect: That on the 6th November (two days after the public examination), Mr. Todd addressed him "in a very offensive and acrimonious tone," complaining of "the manner in which the annual examination had been conducted, and the premiums awarded," and stating "that he would bring his complaint before the Board personally and by writing; and if this would not do, would take another method of obtaining satisfaction; and also that he would not submit to be trampled on by any men or body of men," "that he had not expected such treatment" from him (Mr. Bole), "but that from Mr. O'Callaghan he had never expected anything like justice or fair play;" and that on the 8th November he again addressed Mr. Bole, "and used even more offensive language, and such as renders impossible, under present circumstances, any cordiality in their official relations, or any feeling of satisfaction on Mr. Bole's part in the discharge of his official duties in connection with the schools."

(a.) As regards what occurred on the 6th November, Mr. Todd's statement is as follows:—

"Mr. Bole, I think, sent for me to come to his office \* \* \* \* \* After the business was concluded I asked Mr. Bole what authority Mr. O'Callaghan had for making the statement with reference to the parents, which had given such offence. He said he did not know \* \* \* \* \* I then said that I would have to bring that statement as well as the manner in which the premiums had been settled without any reference to the heads of the establishment, under the notice of the Board, and I think I added 'other matters' also. \* \* \* \* \* I said I would bring the case before the Board in writing, and if that would not do, personally; but I never used the term 'satisfaction'; what I said, I think was, that I would take another method of having the matter dealt with. I followed that up by saying that I had not expected such treatment from him, \* \* \* \* \* and I added that I did not expect any better from Mr. O'Callaghan. If I had used the words

Minutes of Evidence, pp. 46, 47.

"words 'anything like justice or fair play' in this connection, I think I should remember them, and I have now no recollection of having used those words. I think I also used the expression attributed to me by Mr. Bole, that I would not submit to be trampled upon by any man or body of men. I don't think Mr. Bole said anything in reply to all this. \* \* \* \* \* I am certain that he offered no excuse or explanation as to what I had complained of."

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 54.

Mr. Bole asserts that the above statement "is, in several important respects, defective and incorrect," that "Mr. Todd commenced his inquiry as to Mr. O'Callaghan with the very significant words, 'I would like to know, &c.,' and in a very angry tone;" and that he (Mr. Bole) has a most distinct recollection of his having said, "From Mr. O'Callaghan I have never expected either justice or fair play."

(5.) With reference to Mr. Bole's statement as to what occurred on the 8th November, Mr. Todd gave the following explanation:—

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 47.

"Mr. Bole came into my school a short time before the pupils were dismissed, and asked me to request the children who were to get the Board's premiums to remain. I did so. While the children were waiting, Mr. Bole came to me again and asked me, would I assist him in allocating the premiums. I looked at him with astonishment on hearing him ask me to assist him in allocating the premiums, just at the time when they were about to be paid, and I replied, 'Oh, no! it is too late now to ask my assistance; as you have had the honour of doing that business up to this, I will allow you to finish it;' and I added, 'If the boys' school does not get its due proportion, I will take care that the matter shall be represented to the Board.' \* \* \* \* \* Mr. Bole said he hoped the good feeling which had prevailed between him and me up to that time would not be interrupted by any irritation. I replied that I had no wish to say anything that could produce irritation. I think he then said, 'You have addressed me in a manner in which I have never addressed you.' I replied, 'I would prefer a man having the manliness to say what he thought, if he considers he has not been well treated;' I may have also said, 'I could not understand this sort of secret work.'"

"I think I also added that I had never been treated with such contempt in my life; I think I left after saying that. All this occurred in the boys' schoolroom, in which the pupils who were to receive the premiums were seated at the desks. My impression is that the other pupils had been sent home at the time, but I will not state positively that such was the case. I do not think that any of the pupils or teachers heard what was said. What I said, I said certainly in a dissatisfied tone of voice, but not in a loud or angry tone, or with any intention that what I said should be heard by any person except Mr. Bole, and certainly I did not intend to speak in an offensive tone; I left the school-room then, and I think Mr. Bole distributed the premiums then to the boys."

With regard to this statement, Mr. Bole says, he does not object to anything in it, and that "it is a very fair statement" of what occurred on the occasion. That occasion, it is important to remember, was in the boys' schoolroom in the presence of the pupils, and pupil teachers; and Mr. Bole states in his letter of the 10th January last that "so great was the impression produced by his (Mr. Todd's) manner, that, whereas usually on such occasions, the members of the teaching staff show a readiness to assist in obtaining signatures, &c., not one of the pupil teachers ventured to come near, and I was left alone with the pupils during the whole proceedings."

Now it seems perfectly clear to me that Mr. Todd's own statement of what occurred between him and Mr. Bole on the 8th and 8th November, furnishes abundant proof of the charge preferred against him, and further that the Commissioners cannot fail to derive therefrom a correct judgment as to the attitude of insubordination and defiance, and the insolent and overbearing tone and manner, which Mr. Todd is capable of assuming towards his official superiors, when the latter in the discharge of their duty venture to say or do anything of which Mr. Todd disapproves.

It is a matter of official notoriety that this is not the first, or the second, or the third time that Mr. Todd has transgressed in this way. It is on record that he has adopted the same attitude, manner, and tone towards every district inspector whom the Commissioners have placed over the Model School. Mr. Graham, Mr. Porter, Mr. Dugan, Mr. O'Callaghan, and Mr. Bole, have all in their turn become the objects of his enmity and his insolence, and of unfounded and vindictive charges, the ultimate result of his whole course of conduct being that at present, and for the last six or seven months, the Model School has been virtually exempt from official supervision, the inspectors no longer feeling themselves free, or deeming it safe, to advert upon irregularities, or apply a remedy to existing defects.

10. I have now dealt with every one of the charges which I was instructed to investigate, and have indicated the conclusions to which I have myself arrived respecting them. If on considering this report, and the evidence which accompanies it, the Commissioners shall be of opinion that these conclusions are well founded, I have no doubt they will see the pressing necessity of adopting prompt and efficacious measures to put a stop for ever to the scandals which have been of so frequent occurrence in the Derry Model School, and to vindicate the authority and the independence of the inspectors whom they have placed in charge of so important an establishment.

I have, &c.

The Secretaries,  
Education Office, Dublin.

(signed) John E. Sheridan,  
Chief of Inspection.

See abstract of correspondence with reference to irregularities, &c. on the part of Mr. Todd.

Minutes of Evidence,  
p. 54.

## APPENDICES to REPORT of John E. Sheridan, Esq.

## APPENDIX, No. 1.

## Londonderry Model School Examinations.

To the Editor of the "Derry Standard."

Sir,

I was greatly astonished at the wholesale attack made on parents by Head Inspector O'Callaghan, in a very singular speech made by him at the close of the public examination of the pupils of the Model School on Tuesday last. I have no doubt it is quite true that in Derry, as in other places, there are many people who do not attend to the education of their children as they should, but I did not expect to hear that the Derry parents were so much behind those of other places as to merit a lecture by the head inspector in presence of a large assembly of their fellow-citizens.

Now the teachers are the only persons who could give this information, and from inquiries that have been made, I am confident the heads of the male and female schools will not endorse his assertion. Indeed, I have frequently heard them state "that in no other part of Ireland with which they are acquainted, do parents more cordially co-operate with the teachers in promoting their children's education."

Where then did Mr. O'Callaghan get this information? From whom did he "inquire"? In justice to the public who are assailed on this occasion, Mr. O'Callaghan is bound to reply definitely to the foregoing queries.

I am, &amp;c.

(signed) *One of the Assailed.*

Derry, 7 November 1873.

## Londonderry Model School Examination.

To the Editor of the "Sentinel."

Sir,

My attention has been called to a letter on the above subject, signed "One of the Aggrieved," in the "Londonderry Standard" last week, complaining and very justly of the charges made wholesale against the parents of the children, alleging that their neglect caused the failure in the examination. I do not think this charge is just as against the whole, or even a majority, of the parents of children attending the Londonderry District Model School. The interest manifested by the parents and among friends who attend the annual examination, and patiently sit through some very dry, and to them uninteresting, portions of it from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m., does not assist in proving Mr. O'Callaghan's statement to be true. Had Mr. O'Callaghan told the Mayor and parents of the children what I consider the true cause (if any) of the failure in the last examinations, he would have mentioned Mr. McColgan's absence for many months, and might have alluded to some inefficiency in the pupil teachers. My opinion is there might be a great improvement made in the latter. I agree with "One of the Aggrieved," when he says the parents of the children as a rule do take an interest in their having their home lessons fairly prepared. I think if the inspectors treated the teachers with more courtesy, and consulted them more, the prizes would be more fairly distributed. Before closing, I would like to know if the Irish Society's premiums are awarded according to the rules laid down by that honourable body.

I am, &amp;c.

(signed) *Another of the Aggrieved.*

## The recent Model School Examination.

To the Editor of the "Derry Standard."

Dear Sir,

HAVING seen a letter published in the "Standard" of the 12th instant, signed "One of the Assailed," and reflecting on Mr. O'Callaghan for observations made by him at the recent public examination of the children attending our local Model School, I was induced to make some inquiry in order to test how far the above-named official's charge against the parents was founded on fact.

The information I have gleaned on the subject corroborates the opinion I had long since formed, viz., that there was too much "marked off" in each subject in the home lessons for pupils to commit to memory within the time placed at their disposal. This, taken together with the unusually high per-centage standard adopted on this occasion, will perhaps be

be sufficient to account for the small number of prizes distributed. I do not admire Mr. O'Callaghan's style of complimenting the teachers; I believe I am only giving expression to the opinion entertained by the vast majority of the citizens, when I state that the teachers, male and female, are a most efficient staff, but I doubt very much whether Mr. O'Callaghan's observations, taken as a whole, were calculated to place them in that light before the public. They have, however, the confidence of the citizens, and may, if they are so disposed, join them in the belief that the head inspector was joking.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Another of the Assailed.*

#### Londonderry Model School Examination.

To the Editor of the "Sentinel."

Sir,

MY attention has been directed to two letters in the local papers on the above subject; and as "Another of the Aggrieved," I heartily concur with each correspondent on the parents' behalf. With reference to the failure in the proficiency of the pupils this year, why, if there was such, did Mr. O'Callaghan not state some of the more substantial causes, which must be very well known to himself and his colleague? The summer holidays were, for the last eight or nine years, given early in July; and this being so, the parents were accustomed to avail themselves of this month, the popular one here, for taking their children to the shore or elsewhere. This year, however, the above custom was departed from without any show of reason or timely announcement. My little girls found the school closed against them at the end of July, and I know a great many others who complained of being placed in the same predicament by the same untoward arrangement. Indeed, I have reason to believe that the attendants in some of the departments suffered considerably during the quarter preceding the examination. Considering this fact, the wonder is that the pupils did half so well, especially if one takes into account the high standard of classification, and all they have to know in a limited time. I cannot refrain, also, from making an observation on another remark made by Mr. O'Callaghan in the course of his speech. He states that 80 per cent. of the pupils are eligible for promotion to higher classes. This surely does not look like a failure in the required proficiency; but perhaps Mr. O'Callaghan will be able to explain the meaning of this apparent inconsistency. Apologising for thus troubling you,

I am, &c.

(signed) *One Interested.*

#### Londonderry Model School Examination.

To the Editor of the "Londonderry Journal."

Sir,

I FIND three or four of the parents referred to by Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector of national schools, at the close of the late examination of the Derry Model Schools, have indignantly repudiated the charge made against them by that gentleman; I am very glad they have done so; for this reason, that strangers would be likely to infer from his remarks that the national system of education had become unpopular in Derry. I can assure those who think so that at no former period was the system more highly or more generally appreciated than it is at present, especially when it is carried out in its purity, as it is in our Model Schools; I have had children at our local Model School for a considerable number of years, and I am therefore indebted to it for their education, an education which could be had nowhere else for six times the cost.

I remember that during the time that Head Inspector Fleming was here, the public examinations, and the apportioning of the premiums gave general satisfaction, and that hardly any public examination has taken place since he left which did not give rise to much unpleasantness and grumbling. Evidently there must be something faulty in the manner of awarding the premiums when there is such general dissatisfaction amongst the pupils and their parents. Better abolish the examinations and the giving of premiums entirely, than have these bickerings every year. I find there are many children whose names were read out at the last examination for premiums, one of my own amongst the number, who have heard nothing more of them since, are ignorant of the amount they are to receive, or the source whence they come; have got no certificates, and are unable to get any information about them from anyone. This, it will be admitted, is not the right way to do things. It is well known to those who like myself had children at the schools, when the Honourable the Irish Society first gave the grants for premiums, that the rules drawn up and approved by the Board and the Irish Society at that time have been entirely disregarded in the awarding of these premiums on the recent occasion. I have been told that the district inspector is the manager of the Model Schools in his district, and if so, he is responsible for any irregularity connected with the examinations and the distribution of the premiums.

I am, &c.

Derry, 20 November 1873.

(signed) *Another of the Assailed.*

## APPENDIX, No. 2.

ANTECEDENTS of Mr. Todd, from 1862 to 1872, inclusive.

ABSTRACT of CORRESPONDENCE with Reference to Irregularities, &c., on the part of Mr. Todd, Head Master of the Derry District Model School, since the Date of his Appointment to that Office in January 1862 till 1870.

- 1862: September 19th.—Mr. Fleming, head inspector, forwards an extract from the "Derry Standard," containing a letter from Mr. Todd, in which he repudiates the authorship of an article in the "Standard," attributed to him by a correspondent of that paper, Mr. Fleming expresses his belief, "that newspaper correspondence by teachers or other officers of the Board, must be productive of very mischievous consequences." No action taken in this matter. Correspondence with newspaper.
- November 7th.—Mr. Todd writes to the secretaries, complaining of the inconvenience experienced by the teachers of the model school on account of not receiving their salaries at the first of the month. Refers also to the irregularity in the transmission of payment of his boarding account. Direct correspondence with secretaries.
- November 19th.—Mr. Graham, the district inspector then in charge, directed to inform Mr. Todd, that such a letter as that forwarded by him should be transmitted through the district inspector.
- 1863: February 21st.—Mr. Graham complains, that without his sanction Mr. Todd closed his school at one o'clock on the 18th February to allow the pupils to attend an entertainment at the Corporation Hall. Closing Model School without authority.
- March 18th.—Mr. Todd informed that the Commissioners disapprove of his conduct in closing the school before the appointed hour, without having first obtained the proper authority.
- February 21st.—Mr. Fleming, head inspector, forwards a note from Mr. Todd, in which he states that Mr. Graham, district inspector, "does not know how sufficiently to annoy him" (Mr. Todd), because he refused to certify as to the correctness of an account which "included things got for himself (Mr. Graham) and charged to the Commissioners." District inspector charged with dishonesty.
- April 10th.—Board's Order.—That as the Commissioners do not consider the charges brought by Mr. Todd against Mr. Graham have been sustained, he is to be removed from the charge of the Derry Model School as soon as arrangements can be made for the purpose. Mr. Todd to be removed from Derry District Model School.
- June 12th.—Board's Order.—The Commissioners will consent to alter their decision as regards the removal of Mr. Todd, provided they receive from him a letter expressing his regret and sorrow for having advanced charges against Inspector Graham, which he was unable to support. The Commissioners further order that one of the chiefs of inspection be sent to Derry to reprimand Mr. Todd, in the presence of the Bishop of Derry and the head and district inspectors, for his conduct in making such charges on such slight grounds. On the next Board day, the Commissioners further order that Mr. Todd be informed that in altering their decision as to his removal, they were influenced simply by the evidence originally laid before them, and by the consideration of the very severe punishment which would be inflicted upon him by his transfer to any other model school to which they had at that time the power to remove him. Mr. Todd allowed to remain at Derry District Model School.
- Reprimand by chief of inspection.

Copy of Mr. Todd's Letter in Reply to above Order.

To the Commissioners of National Education, Dublin.

(5238—8g.)

My Lords and Gentlemen,  
 In reply to the communication of the 22nd June, addressed to me by the secretaries of the Board, I thankfully accept the opportunity afforded to me of acknowledging any error I may have committed in bringing against my superior officer the charges alluded to in that letter, and which charges were put forward by me in a moment of excitement under much provocation. The language employed was unsuited to our relative positions, and I deeply regret that I should ever have used it under any circumstances. I acted, however, in good faith, fully believing the statements made, though I am now convinced that this proceeding was characterised by much haste and indiscretion, especially at a time calcu-

lated to give it a hostile aspect far beyond my intention, and in this respect I willingly submit to the judgment of your honourable Board.

In conclusion, I beg to return my grateful thanks to the Commissioners for allowing me this opportunity of tendering my apology for the only indiscretion with which I have ever been charged since my first connection with the national system of education; and my future conduct in all official relations will, I hope, be such as to satisfy the Commissioners that their kindness on the present occasion has not been misplaced.

The Commissioners of National Education,  
Dublin.

I am, &c.  
(signed) William Todd.

Complaint of pupil  
teachers against  
Mr. Todd.

1864: February 12th.—Letter signed by seven pupil teachers of Derry District Model School, forwarded to district inspector, complaining that Mr. Todd hindered them from leaving the premises on the Saturday half holiday; that he used opprobrious language towards them, and on several occasions threatened to kick them.

March 9th.—Head Inspector Fleming having been directed to hold an inquiry, reports that he found some of the pupil teachers had been disobedient, and that Mr. Todd had in consequence hindered all of them from leaving the premises on Saturdays; that the pupil teachers agreed in complaining of the language used towards them by Mr. Todd, and that there was no evidence as regards threatening to kick them.

Mr. Fleming stated to Mr. Todd that he should not have hindered all the pupil teachers from leaving the premises on Saturdays, and informed him that he should carefully abstain from anything like harsh or unbecoming language in his intercourse with the pupil teachers.

May 2nd.—Mr. Todd informed that the Commissioners approved of the counsel conveyed to him by the head inspector.

September 3rd.—Mr. Porter, district inspector, gives a copy of a remark made by Mr. Todd in the visitor's book, with regard to an observation left by Mr. H. L. Loughran, M.P., as to the small attendance on the 30th August 1864.

*Copy of Mr. Todd's Remark.*—"The above remark is entirely uncalled for, as the cause of the small attendance was fully explained to Mr. Loughran. This gentleman's manner was very unlike what might be expected from an educated person."

September 30th.—Board's Order.—Admonish Mr. Todd for having presumed to make the unwise and uncalled-for remark referred to, and caution him against again making any comments or remarks on what may be recorded in the Board's books by either official or non-official visitors.

1866: April 7th.—Mr. Porter, district inspector, complains of the disrespectful demeanour exhibited towards him by Mr. Todd.

April 23rd.—Head Inspector Fleming directed to admonish Mr. Todd to be respectful and deferential in future towards Mr. Porter.

April 30th.—Mr. Porter, district inspector, complains of Mr. Todd's insubordinate conduct towards him.

November 20th.—Board's Order on Head Inspector Fleming's Report of his Inquiry into the Charge of Insubordination.—Admonish Mr. Todd on his want of temper, and the insubordinate spirit exhibited by him in his intercourse with Mr. Porter, and caution him as to his future conduct.

1867: May 7th.—Mr. Porter, district inspector, complains of an entry made by Mr. Todd, in the Weekly Report Book, to the effect that he, Mr. Porter, twice refused to enter the fees for April in the usual way.

June 4th.—Mr. Fleming, head inspector, directed to admonish Mr. Todd not again to make such an entry.

August 9th.—Mr. Todd informed that his letter to the Board with regard to the entry above referred to, calls for severe censure, as it was written in contravention of the express instructions of the head inspector, and animadverted upon the statements made by Mr. Porter in an unbecoming and insubordinate manner. Mr. Todd further informed, that should he ever again be guilty of such an act of disrespect and insubordination towards his inspector, his case will be brought specially under the notice of the Board.

Unwise and un-  
called for remark  
made in visitor's  
book.

Disrespectful de-  
mour towards  
inspector.

Insubordinate con-  
duct towards  
inspector.

Entry made by  
Mr. Todd in weekly  
report book.

Copy of Letter to Mr. Todd.

Derry District Model School.

Education Office, Dublin,

9 August 1867.

Sir,

THE Commissioners having had before them a letter from Mr. Porter, district inspector, in reference to an entry made by you in the weekly report book, deemed it, after due consideration, to be only necessary to direct the head inspector to instruct you not to make a similar entry in the book in question in future.

It was no part of our instructions to the head inspector to read Mr. Porter's letter to you; but it appears that he took upon himself the responsibility of reading some of its leading passages to you, with a view of more impressively and seriously warning you against coming into collision with your inspectors.

Taking advantage of Mr. Fleming's indulgence, you very improperly made almost verbatim notes of the passages he read for you, and instead of profiting by the object he had in view in quoting these passages as a warning to guide you in your future conduct, you have, in contravention of his express instructions and earnest desires, written a letter to the Board animadverting upon the statements made by Mr. Porter in a spirit so unbecoming, and in language so insubordinate, as to call for severe censure.

Should you ever again be guilty of such an act of disrespect and insubordination towards your inspector, your case will be brought specially under the notice of the Board.

We are, &c.  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

Mr. William Todd,  
Model School, Derry.

Derry District Model School.

1866: September 5th.—Mr. Dugan, district inspector, states, in weekly report, that the model school was closed on Monday, the 31st August, without his knowledge or sanction.

Closing Model School without authority.

September 10th.—Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, informed on his report of the inquiry held by him, that Mr. Todd should not have yielded to the pressures brought to bear upon him by the refractory teachers, who sought the opinion of persons not officially connected with the model school, with regard to closing it on the 31st August.

November 30th.—Mr. Dugan, district inspector, forwards a letter, dated the 21st November, from Mr. Todd, in which he complains that Graham, the caretaker, was drunk on the 12th November, that he quarrelled with him, called him a liar, and accused him of having sworn lies, and that he kicked his (Mr. Todd's) dog.

Complaint of Mr. Todd against the caretaker.

1869: January 29th.—Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, having been called upon to inquire into the charges preferred against Graham, reports that Mr. Todd initiated the quarrel, by making an unprovoked and unfounded charge (that of being drunk) against Graham, that he kept a large dog on the premises, and that Graham had in consequence unnecessary and disgusting duties imposed upon him in keeping the grounds in order, and in keeping the halls and rooms clean, that Graham kicked the dog to turn him out of the hall; also that during the investigation Mr. Todd made use of offensive and insulting language to Graham, and insinuated that he was prompted by some other party.

February 24th.—Mr. O'Callaghan informed that Mr. Todd is to be cautioned to be more careful henceforth as to the remarks he addresses to Graham or others employed in the establishment, and required to remove the dog at once. Mr. O'Callaghan directed to read for Mr. Todd the letter containing this decision.

Mr. Todd cautioned with regard to his conduct towards the caretaker.

Sir,

Education Office, 11 March 1869.

WITH reference to your letter of the 6th instant, we have to inform you that we write this day to Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, stating that in conjunction with you he is to communicate to Mr. Todd the decision of the Board respecting the charges brought by him against W. Graham, the caretaker at this model school.

We have to request you will inform us, without delay, whether the order for the removal of Mr. Todd's dog has been complied with.

With regard to the following passage in your letter of the 6th instant:—"Mr. Todd expressed himself dissatisfied, and that, too, in pretty strong language," and to the following

in your letter of the 9th instant:—"On learning what I had done, he (Mr. Todd) was quite increased, and in manner and in language anything but respectful and becoming, insisted on the letter being forwarded to you." We have to state, that it is your duty to forward to this office at once a detailed report of the particulars of language and behaviour on the part of Mr. Todd, which are referred to in the extracts given above, and which are underlined in this communication.

We are, &c.

(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

C. W. Dugan, Esq.,  
District Inspector, Derry.

Unjust and offensive remarks made by Mr. Todd.

March 13th.—Mr. O'Callaghan reports that upon reading the secretaries' letter to Mr. Todd as instructed, he made an observation as unjust as it was offensive, namely, "I understand you have been careful to keep back many things."

The keeping of private boarders and the rearing of pigs.

February 24th.—Mr. O'Callaghan, in accordance with instructions from this office, reports upon the maintenance of private boarders by Mr. Todd, and upon the feeding and rearing of pigs on the premises.

March 25th.—Mr. O'Callaghan directed to express to Mr. Todd the marked disapproval and displeasure with which the Commissioners regard the introduction of the practice of keeping boarders without their sanction or knowledge. Also to inform him they entirely disapprove of his rearing pigs.

Direct correspondence with secretaries with reference to Inspector.

March 10th.—Mr. Todd writes to the secretaries stating that letters forwarded by him to Mr. Dugan for transmission to this office had not been sent; encloses copies of the letters referred to, in which he charges Graham, the caretaker, with having been drunk, with neglect of duty, &c.

Mr. Todd's offensive tone and menacing manner towards Inspector.

March 13th.—Mr. Dugan, district inspector, reports that on the 6th instant Mr. Todd asked him in an imperious manner if he had forwarded his letter containing charges against the caretaker, that he hinted it had been kept back for a purpose, and stated that he knew how the investigation had been managed, that his tone was offensive, and his manner menacing. Inspector further reports that he told Mr. Todd he could not pass over the matter as he had addressed him in presence of a third person (Miss McCormac). Mr. Todd replied that "he would have the matter out if he was forced to send a copy of the whole "thing to every Commissioner on the Board," and that he was acting under full advice.

March 25th.—Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, directed to inform Mr. Todd that Mr. Dugan has given a satisfactory explanation of his reasons for not forwarding the letters referred to, and further to impress upon him that whenever he becomes aware of any irregularity in the establishment, his duty is strictly limited to bringing the matter, temperately and respectfully, under the notice of the district inspector, and that he is not under any circumstances to permit himself the liberty of criticising the official conduct of the inspectors whom the Commissioners have entrusted with the superintendence of the model school. Mr. O'Callaghan further directed to remind Mr. Todd of the circular of the 23rd February 1896 (copy sent), instructing district inspectors to inform the resident masters of model schools, that on all points affecting the discipline and management of the school and the interior economy of the house, &c., communication should be made at once to the district inspector, and that only through him should they enter into correspondence with head inspectors or this office. Mr. Todd to be informed by Mr. O'Callaghan that the Commissioners desire he shall in future comply strictly with the requirements of this circular.

Rev. R. Synth requests an investigation, so as to prevent a public scandal.

April 14th.—Rev. R. Synth, Praa, Derry, states that Mr. Todd feels aggrieved that the Commissioners should have reprimanded him for communicating directly with the Board, and not through the district inspector, the matter being one in which the inspector was personally involved; requests that some superior officer of the Board should be deputed to investigate the whole case so as to prevent a controversy from growing into a public scandal.

1870: June 1st.—On resident Commissioner's order, on Head Inspector O'Callaghan's Letter 31: Mr. Todd cautioned against using corporal punishment.



## APPENDIX, No. 3.

COPY of STATEMENT addressed to Mr. *Sheridan* during the Investigation.

Sir,

Derry Model School, 8 May 1874.

I am to submit the following explanations in reference to the statement in my letter, of the 8th November 1873, as regards the illness of Mr. M'Colgan, and the "not very efficient staff of pupil teachers," &c.

It is well known that Mr. M'Colgan had been in delicate health for a considerable time previous to the date of his resignation; his illness became very conspicuous about the time of the public examination in 1872, and his altered appearance on that day was remarked by many of his friends and acquaintances.

For the greater part, if not for the whole, of the period between the time of the public examination in 1872, and that of his leaving, he was under medical treatment, taking very powerful medicine, and suffering great pain and inconvenience from an almost continual application of blisters on the head. Few men would have attempted to work at all under the circumstances, and I think it due to him to say that he did attend to duties connected with the school on all occasions when he was at all able, and often when suffering from the effects of his disease, and also from the medical treatment.

I do not think that any one will venture to say that, under the circumstances, he could teach as efficiently as formerly, or attend regularly to his duties.

This I did not expect him to do, and my great anxiety was to assist him in every way I could.

He got leave of absence for the months of May and June, and a young man from the special class acted as a substitute for him during this time. I need not say to anyone acquainted with school work, that a stranger, however efficient, could not, for obvious reasons, produce the same results as the regular teacher.

Mr. M'Colgan returned in July, but such was the state of his health that he could only attend occasionally, and sometimes for only a portion of the day. He had no one in his place from the time he left in July until after the examination, which took place in October.

Mr. O'Callaghan argues that if I had taken Mr. M'Colgan's place on all occasions of illness or absence, there could have been no cause for complaint.

In the first place, I could not always do so, having often to take charge of one of the other divisions in the absence of the teachers who had to attend to duties in the girls' school; and, in the second place, supposing I could have so acted, this could only have benefited one division, and must have deprived the other divisions of my services.

In the year ended 30th September 1873, the average number of pupil teachers was almost exactly the same as in the year ended 30th September 1872, namely, eight; but in the former year they were much superior to those of the latter in point of efficiency. Indeed, I believe they were the most efficient class of boys we ever had.

The following are the names of the staff in June 1872:—David Fleming, Arthur Mitchell, James Glenn, Robert Scott, James Ross, Robert Aches, Robert Roddie, Denis Beraghty, and John Mesgan.

Four of these have obtained situations in the Inland Revenue Department, which they gained by competitive examination; one is acting as assistant in the Lurgan Model School, another is teaching an ordinary school; one has got a situation in the Post Office, and another is preparing for the examination in June next, in connection with the Science and Art Department.

In 1873, there were 10 pupil teachers admitted from the 6th of January until the 1st of September; of these, one, David Caldwell, remained only about two weeks; another, Charles Richardson, about seven months; another, Joseph Shaw, was here about four months; another, Francis Burke, one month. Another, who was admitted on the 11th September 1872, left on the 11th of April 1873. Thomas M'Loughlin was ill for about two months, though still counted, and returned as one of the staff. This boy was always delicate, and often complaining of sore eyes, which rendered him unfit for work. James Blair was also ill for some time, and is always in delicate health. The medical attendant says he has disease of the heart, and he asked me not to allow him to be put to any severe work.

It will be seen, from the above statement, that the staff for this year was not very efficient, and that if deductions were made on account of illness, &c., the average would not be so great as it appears.

(signed) William Todd.



## DERRY MODEL SCHOOL.

PUPIL TEACHERS in Establishment from 30th September 1872 to 30th September 1873.

1872:					1873:						
Week ended	5 October	"	"	"	7	Week ended	15 March	"	"	"	8
"	12 "	"	"	"	8	"	22 "	"	"	"	8
"	19 "	"	"	"	8	"	29 "	"	"	"	8
"	27 "	"	"	"	8	"	5 April	"	"	"	9
"	9 November	"	"	"	8	"	12 "	"	"	"	9
"	16 "	"	"	"	8	"	20 "	"	"	"	8
"	23 "	"	"	"	8	"	3 May	"	"	"	8
"	30 "	"	"	"	8	"	10 "	"	"	"	8
"	7 December	"	"	"	8	"	17 "	"	"	"	9
"	14 "	"	"	"	8	"	24 "	"	"	"	9
"	21 "	"	"	"	8	"	31 "	"	"	"	9
"	28 "	"	"	"	8	"	7 June	"	"	"	8
1873:						"	14 "	"	"	"	8
Week ended	11 January	"	"	"	7	"	21 "	"	"	"	8
"	18 "	"	"	"	7	"	28 "	"	"	"	8
"	25 "	"	"	"	7	"	5 July	"	"	"	8
"	1 February	"	"	"	7	"	12 "	"	"	"	8
"	8 "	"	"	"	9	"	19 "	"	"	"	8
"	15 "	"	"	"	8	"	27 "	"	"	"	8
"	22 "	"	"	"	8	"	30 August	"	"	"	7
"	29 "	"	"	"	8	"	6 September	"	"	"	9
"	8 March	"	"	"	8	"	13 "	"	"	"	9
						"	20 "	"	"	"	9
						"	27 "	"	"	"	9
6 Weeks	"	"	"	"	7	6	x	7	=	42	
30 "	"	"	"	"	8	30	x	8	=	240	
10 "	"	"	"	"	9	10	x	9	=	90	
46 Weeks.											46 ) 372 ( 8
											368
											4

## PUPIL TEACHERS.

- 1.—David Caldwell only remained a fortnight.
- 2.—Charles Richardson, admitted 1st February and left 6th September (seven months and one week).
- 3.—Joseph Shaw, 3rd February, left 31st May (four months).
- 4.—Francis Burke, admitted 1st September 1873, left 30th September (one month).
- 5.—Thomas M'Loughlin was two months absent from school business, ill, although still counted and returned as one of the staff.
- 6.—James Blair, also long ill.

MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken at INQUIRY held by John E. Sheridan, Chief of Inspection, into charges preferred by Mr. Todd, Head Master of the Londonderry Model School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, Head Inspector, and Mr. Bole, District Inspector; and also into charges made by the latter gentlemen against Mr. Todd.

## Evidence of—

PAGE.

1. Mr. Todd	44
2. Mr. O'Callaghan	48
3. Mr. Bole	51
4. The Mayor of Derry	55
5. Mrs. Smithies (Head Mistress)	55
6. Mr. Speers (Assistant)	56
7. Mr. McKenzie	58
8. Mr. Robert McKivicker	59
9. Mr. Samuel Knox	60
10. Miss Julia McCormac (Assistant)	60
11. Miss Patton (Assistant)	61
12. Miss Dugan (Infant School Mistress)	62
13. Miss McClure (Mistress)	62
14. Miss Bailey (Pupil Teacher)	62
15. Mrs. McGow	62
16. Mrs. Galbraith	63
17. Mr. McClelland	63
18. Mr. Alexander Adams (Reporter)	63
19. Mr. Carragher	64
20. Mr. Dale	64
21. Mr. Charles Ogg	64

## EVIDENCE of Mr. Todd, Head Master.

THE first complaint contained in my letter of the 8th November last, addressed to the secretaries, is, that while Mr. O'Callaghan in his address to the audience passed a high eulogium upon the infant school mistress, he referred to the departments of the other two head teachers in such terms as were calculated to lead the public to believe that these teachers "had certainly not been doing their duty." On full consideration, I am still of opinion that that complaint is well founded. I admit the correctness of the published report of Mr. O'Callaghan's address. My argument is, that although Mr. O'Callaghan attributed the alleged falling-off in my school to neglect on the part of the parents, and not to any neglect on my part, that was an explanation which the parents would not, and could not, accept as satisfactory, and, consequently, that they (the parents) would conclude that it was merely an excuse made to Mr. O'Callaghan by the teachers to cover their own neglect or want of success. I am aware that that was the view actually taken by the parents, for on the next day, which was the market day of Derry, I was surrounded by persons asking me to explain the matter, and some of them seemed very angry. I by no means intended to impute to Mr. O'Callaghan any desire to bring the teachers into disrepute, or into collision with the parents; I merely wished to indicate that such was the tenor of his remarks. I do not consider, however, that it may be fairly inferred from the tenor of his address that he was actuated by a desire to screen the teachers from blame.

I complained that when he thought proper to refer to deficiencies in the school, he did not advert to circumstances well known to the inspectors, which would have accounted for the alleged deficiencies in a satisfactory manner. Some of these circumstances I have specified in my letter. I have also stated in the letter that "There are other things too, which are not unknown to the inspectors, that are not a little unfavourable to the success of the school which I shall not further refer to at present." One of these things is, that at the previous results examination in 1872, all the pupils were examined in the classes in which they were then actually enrolled, whereas, under the provision of Note 6, of the Results Programme, out of 175 pupils then examined, no less than 95 (or 54·2 per cent.) might have been examined in the next lower classes.

Had advantage been taken of this privilege in 1872, these pupils might have been presented in 1873, in the classes in which they had been enrolled in the former year, and would, therefore, have been well prepared. But such not having been done, they had to be presented in the next highest classes in 1873, and the interval was not sufficient to prepare them properly in the advanced programmes. That was the principal of the other causes of deficiency, to which I referred in my letter, and indeed, the most important of all the causes. But there was one other cause to which I would rather not make any allusion. My reason is, that it might lead to investigations regarding some of my staff, which I should not like to provoke. In my letter of the 8th of November I also complained that whereas on all former

former occasions of a similar kind, the head teachers were consulted by the inspectors in making out the premium lists, we were not consulted on the last occasion, and the lists were made out without the slightest reference to us, direct, or indirect. I did not mean to convey that the inspectors, in taking this course, infringed any rule or regulation of the service, but only that on this occasion they departed from a practice that always prevailed in this model school, and in all others that I am acquainted with. I meant to convey, however, that it was intended as a slight to me, and I felt it as such—the more particularly, as at the examination of 1872, Mr. Bole had consulted me as to the boys he had marked out for premiums, and made some alterations at my suggestion, or allowed me to make them, I forget which—and at the same time stated to me that this had been his invariable practice.

In my letter, of the 12th March, I have complained also: "That neither in the examination of the pupils for the Irish Society's prizes, nor in the distribution of the latter, were the regulations agreed upon between the Board and the Irish Society observed." I do not think that any certified or official copy of these regulations has ever been hung up in the school; I have a copy myself—a manuscript copy—which I got from the Irish Society's office years ago, and I gave a copy of it to Mr. Bole shortly after he came here. I have never seen a printed copy of the regulations, and I do not know that they have ever been printed. The regulations were not complied with in 1872, nor for some years previous. I cannot fix upon any time since which they have been neglected. I think they were observed while Mr. Porter was district inspector here, but I cannot be positive. I am not exactly sure that I ever called Mr. O'Callaghan's attention to the fact that these regulations were not complied with; but shortly after Mr. Bole came to Derry, I complained of the matter to him; I think it was either immediately before or during the annual examination of 1872, I explained to him then the particular regulations that had been infringed, and the extent to which they had been departed from. I did so with a view to having them observed at the examination that was taking place, or about to take place. Mr. Bole made some remarks, but I cannot recollect the nature of them; but I am satisfied that at that examination the regulations were not fully complied with. I do not recollect having subsequently complained of this, either to Mr. O'Callaghan or to Mr. Bole, and the reason why I made no complaint was, that although the regulations had not been complied with, yet the total amount to which my school was entitled, was distributed, or nearly so, on that occasion. As regards the last examination, I have not received from the inspectors any information as to the prizes awarded to my pupils, and, therefore, I am not in a position to say whether the full amount was awarded or not. I endeavoured to obtain the information from the children who obtained prizes, and if the information thus obtained was correct, the full amount was not awarded. The full amount should have been 30*l.*, but according to the statements of the children, the actual amount was 22*l.* 8*s.* I did not apply to either Mr. O'Callaghan, or Mr. Bole, for information on the subject since the examination; but on the morning of the public examination day, being anxious to know something about the premiums, I watched for Mr. Bole, and when he arrived (it was then 11 o'clock, or very near it), I went into his office, and said to him, "What about the premium list?" or "Has the premium list been made out?" or something to that effect; and said, "I should like to see it." He took the premium list and went over towards the window, as if he did not wish me to see it, and said he would read it for me, and he did read it. He read the names of the boys, but did not read the sums allocated. I expected he would have handed the list to me, in order that I might look it over and examine it, but as I saw he was not disposed to do that, I left the office without saying anything farther; I did not ask him for it; it was then about the time the examination should be commencing, and I had other business to attend to. Mr. Bole did nothing but read the names on the list. He did not offer a word of explanation. When Mr. Bole read the names from his list, it struck me that the number was very small, as compared with previous years. I did not make any remark to Mr. Bole, however. I may now explain, however, that in previous years I was of opinion that the number of prizes was commonly too great, and I remarked that formerly to Mr. Bole, and he agreed with me. Under the Irish Society's regulations, the maximum number of pupils who could get prizes in my school was 12. When Mr. Bole read out the names on the morning of the examination day, I did not remark that the number of pupils selected for the Irish Society's prizes was less than the maximum number of 12. But their names were not distinguished from those selected for the Commissioners' premiums. At least, that is my recollection; I cannot, however, be positive on that point at this distance of time; I cannot remember whether I remarked that Samuel Knox's name was amongst those read out by Mr. Bole; I am sure it must have been read, but I cannot say that I noticed it. The fact is, I did not take much interest in the matter, as I had expected that I should have had an opportunity of examining the list; and not having been given the opportunity, it was merely through politeness that I remained until the reading of the names had been finished. Up to that moment, the relations between me and Mr. Bole were of a friendly character; nothing had occurred between him and me calculated to mar in the slightest degree the friendly character of our communications. Until I heard Samuel Knox's name read out at the distribution of certificates on the public day, I was not aware that he was ineligible for a prize from the Irish Society's fund. I don't remember taking any notice, during the preliminary examination, that his name was on the list of pupils presented for examination; but if I had noticed the circumstance, I would not have made any objection, because I considered that he was eligible for examination for results, though not for the Irish Society's prizes. I did not take any part in the preparation of the inspector's marking papers for the preliminary examination,

farther than that I gave directions to the assistants as to how they should be prepared, and the latter consulted me as to whether a particular boy's name should or should not be on the roll. I now recollect that I made out the marking papers for the upper half of the senior division myself. After the marking papers were made out, I do not think I looked very carefully over them to see that they were correct, as the time was a very busy one. I did not examine these returns with a view to satisfy myself that pupils were not presented for examination for results contrary to the Board's regulations, because I expected that the assistants would conform to the instructions; I am not prepared to say whether any of these returns had been made out by the pupil teachers, but I think it very unlikely. Samuel Knox was in Mr. Speer's division; I was present, at least occasionally, while that division was being examined. I did not, at any time, during the preliminary examination, call either Mr. O'Callaghan's or Mr. Bole's attention to the fact that Samuel Knox was not eligible for a prize under the Irish Society's regulations, because I did not think of the matter at all at the time; but when his name was called out on the public day, I then remembered that he had not been in attendance for the last three months of the results year, and was, therefore, ineligible for one of the Irish Society's prizes. I am of opinion that, although his name was not on the rolls of the school on the last day of the results year, he was yet eligible for examination for results fees, because he had made the required number of attendances within the year.

[Mr. Todd's attention was here called to the direction at head of Examination Roll, and the instruction to teachers in the Example Sheet; that no names of pupils should be entered, except those which were on the rolls of the school on the last day of the results year.]

I now see that Samuel Knox was not eligible for results fees, and should not have been presented for examination; I had forgotten that condition at the last examination. When Samuel Knox's name was called out on the public examination day I was standing in front of the gallery, and I merely stooped down and said to either Mr. O'Callaghan or Mr. Bole (I forget which): "I beg pardon, but that boy is ineligible, for he was absent for the last three months." I am almost sure that these were the words I used; I certainly did not speak in a loud or angry tone of voice; my object was merely to correct what appeared to be a mistake. I had no intention of conveying that the mistake was intentional. Mr. O'Callaghan said, "Never mind," or something to that effect, and nothing more was said by any one, so far as I can remember, and there was no interruption of the proceedings. I do not remember that the boy's father came over to look at the certificate. I do not recollect having seen him there that day, until after the distribution of the certificates had been completed; I saw him then, but not previously. The boy had not got his certificate when I made the remark, and I thought it better to make it then, in order that there might not be any unpleasantness about it afterwards. I shall not say very positively that he had not got his certificate then, but if he had, it must have been immediately after he got it that I made the remark, or while in the act of receiving it. My remark could not have been heard by any person who was not standing immediately beside me. I don't think it could have been heard by the pupils on the gallery, or at most by one or two. I considered Samuel Knox ineligible solely on the ground of his having been absent for the previous three months. At the time he was actually examined by the inspectors he was a pupil of the school, however, because he had returned to school on the 1st of October. He had made 146 attendances within the results year. I have ascertained from the Irish Society's Office in Derry, that the regulations for the allocation of the prizes are on record in the Society's Court, in London, and that it is not competent for any person to deviate from these regulations without the express sanction of the Irish Society. I am of opinion that no return of these prizes has been furnished by the inspectors to the Irish Society's Office during the last two years. At least the clerk there has told me that he had not received any such return. I am not aware that the Irish Society has ever expressed any disapproval of the infringement of these regulations, but I recollect that when Mr. Dugan, inspector here, I myself brought the matter under the notice of Mr. Green, the Society's agent, and that he expressed his disapproval of the infringement.

I have no complaint to make of the manner in which the preliminary examination of my school was conducted by the inspectors. I am of opinion that the pupils got every fair play from them. I thought indeed that some of the questions were rather difficult, but I impute no blame on that account. Mr. O'Callaghan's questions I considered very nice and fair; Mr. Bole's were more difficult to answer; but certainly Mr. Bole did not put any question that could be considered unfair. His questions were not difficult, but I thought some of them were put in a form that would be likely to puzzle inexperienced children. The examination was not wholly oral; it was partly written and partly oral. Mr. O'Callaghan examined in geometry, and examined very nicely.

With reference to Mr. Bole's statement as to what occurred between him and me on the morning of the 6th November last, my recollection of the matter is as follows: Mr. Bole, I think, sent for me to come to his office, and I did so, but I forget what the particular business was that he wanted me for; I think it was something connected with the examination. After the business, whatever it was, was concluded, I asked Mr. Bole what authority Mr. O'Callaghan had for making the statement with reference to the parents which had given such offence. He said he did not know; that he had never heard it until I had heard it myself. I then said that "I would have to bring that statement, as well as the

manner

manner in which the premiums had been settled, without any reference to the heads of the establishment, under the notice of the Board;" and I think I added, "other matters also," but I am not quite positive as to this.

I said I would bring the case before the Board "in writing," and if that would not do "personally." But I never used the term "satisfaction;" what I said, I think, was that, "I would take another method of having the matter dealt with." I followed up that by saying that I had not expected such treatment from him, as he had on the previous occasion stated that he never did make out the premium lists without consulting the teachers, and, I added that, "I did not expect any better from Mr. O'Callaghan." If I had used the words, "anything like justice or fair play," in this connection, I think I should remember them, and I have now no recollection of having used those words. I think I also used the expression attributed to me by Mr. Bole; "that I would not submit to be trampled upon by any man or body of men." I don't think Mr. Bole said anything in reply to all this; at least I don't remember anything. I am certain that he offered no excuse or explanation as to what I had complained of. With reference to Mr. Bole's statement as to what occurred on the 8th of November, what happened on that occasion was this: Mr. Bole came into my school a short time before the pupils were dismissed, and asked me to request the children, who were to get the Board's premiums, to remain until they received their premiums. I said I would, and I did so. While the children were waiting, Mr. Bole came to me again, and asked would I assist him in allocating the premiums. I looked at him with astonishment on hearing him asking me to assist him in allocating the premiums, just at the time when they were about to be paid, and I replied: "Oh, no; it is too late now to ask my assistance; as you have had the honour of doing that business up to this, 'I will allow you to finish it';" and I added, "If the boys' school does not get its due proportion, I will take care that the matter shall be represented to the Board." I think those were the exact words. I used these words because I was apprehensive that my school would not get as much as it was entitled to; that is, I thought the other departments might be given more than their due share. I had no grounds for such apprehensions, except that I had not been consulted about the premiums, and had not seen the lists. Mr. Bole said he hoped the good feeling which had prevailed between him and me up to that time would not be interrupted by any irritation.

I replied that I had no wish to say anything in an irritative tone, or rather, "anything that could produce irritation." I think he then said: "You have addressed me in a manner in which I have never addressed you." I replied: "I would prefer a man having the manliness to say what he thought, if he considers he has not been well treated." I may have also said: "I could not understand this sort of secret work"—I think it very likely that I said so; but I do not now clearly recollect. I think I also added, that: "I had never been treated with such contempt in my life." I think I left after saying that. All this occurred in the boys' schoolroom, in which the pupils who were to receive the premiums were seated at the desks; my impression is that the other pupils had been sent home at the time; but I will not state positively that such was the case. I do not think that any of the pupils or teachers heard what was said. What I said, I said certainly in a dissatisfied tone of voice; but not in a loud or angry tone, or with any intention that what I said should be heard by any person except Mr. Bole, and, certainly, I did not intend to speak in an offensive tone. I left the schoolroom then, and, I think, Mr. Bole distributed the premiums then to the boys. The Irish Society's prizes were not distributed then.

I think these prizes were not paid until January, and, in fact, some of them were not paid until Saturday last. In a former part of my evidence I stated that I brought under the notice of the Irish Society's agent here, Mr. Green, the fact that the regulations regarding these prizes had not been carried out by the inspectors; and I also stated that the agent expressed his disapproval, and said he would look after the matter in future. Mr. Dugan was then the district inspector, and Mr. O'Callaghan the head inspector; I think that was in 1872. I had not previously brought the matter in the form of complaint under the notice of these inspectors. What I complained of to the Society's agent was chiefly that the number of the prizes had been increased, and the value of each consequently diminished, and that the total amount to which my school was entitled had not always been allocated. I did not tell Mr. Dugan or Mr. O'Callaghan that I had complained to the Society's agent; but I told Mr. Bole shortly after he came here that I had done so.

Mr. Bole has stated that after my letter of complaint and Mrs. Smithies' were forwarded to the Education Office, a number of anonymous letters appeared in the local papers referring to the same subjects and exhibiting a remarkable similarity of expression. I suppose I read all of these letters that I heard of, and I deny most decidedly that I had anything to do directly or indirectly with the publication of these letters. I can account for the identity of subjects and similarity of expression in these letters in this way: For several days after the last public examination the subject was the theme of common conversation in Derry, and a large number of persons applied to me for explanation, and I certainly felt it due to myself to explain to them that the cause of the deficiency in the school assigned by the head inspector was not the true cause, and I stated what I considered were the real causes; and furthermore many persons having asked me about the distribution of the premiums and the Society's prizes, I was obliged to say to them that I knew nothing about them, that I had not been consulted by the inspectors, and I have also stated that the regulations agreed upon regarding the Society's prizes had not been carried out. In this way the writers of the letters referred to would naturally touch upon

the same subjects as were contained in my letter of complaint, and would occasionally use pretty much the same language. Had I written these letters myself, or got them written by others, I would not have been so unguarded as to employ the same or similar expressions as those set forth in my own letter.

I think it was before the annual examination of 1872 that I complained to the Society's agent about the regulations not having been observed. I am not sure as to the year, however, but I am quite certain that it was in Mr. Dugan's time. During the last preliminary examination I was almost constantly with Mr. O'Callaghan while he was examining the pupils. Up to the close of that annual examination my relations with Mr. O'Callaghan were of a friendly character, and had been so for some years previously. I will not say "friendly," but there was nothing unfriendly in our relations. There had been something of reserve on the part of both, I think. At the last examination there was nothing either in Mr. O'Callaghan's manner towards me, or in his mode of examining the classes, that I could take even the slightest exception to. I should not say, however, that his manner was cordial. Our intercourse, however, was not unfriendly. The reason why I did not acquaint Mr. O'Callaghan with the fact of my having complained to Mr. Green, was that I feared he might think I was taking too great a liberty with him. In 1887, when Mr. Fleming was head inspector here, the Society's regulations were not complied with; but I made no complaint. Nor would I have made any complaint on the last occasion were it not for the other matters referred to in my letter to the secretaries. At the same time, I will say that when matters came to such a state that these prizes were decided according to the whim of an inspector, I thought it was full time to make a complaint. When I say the "whim" of an inspector, I do not mean to say that these prizes were decided capriciously, but only that there was no fixed rule kept in view with regard to them. By "no fixed rule," I mean only as regards the number of the prizes and the amount of each; but I do not mean that the inspectors followed no fixed rule in examining the pupils for these prizes.

At the time I tried to get information from the pupils regarding the society's prizes, I thought that Mr. Bole would be unwilling to give me that information if I had applied to him for it. And my reason for thinking so is, that when, on the morning of the public examination day I applied to him for the lists, instead of giving them to me, he only read out the names for me. I imagined there must have been something which he wished to conceal from me, and which would have been disclosed had he given me the lists; of course I do not mean that I suspected that any improper use had been made of the money.

I admit that the answering of my school at the last examination was not so satisfactory as I should have wished; but my impression is, that with the exception of one or two subjects (Geometry, Mensuration, and Algebra, for instance), the general answering was as good as in former years, so far, at least, as the results of Mr. O'Callaghan's examination are concerned, for it was to his examination that I paid most attention. I will not say that the pupils of my school always come well prepared in their home lessons; all I will say is, that during the last results year they prepared them as well as in former years.

(signed) William Todd.

#### EVIDENCE OF Mr. Andrew O'Callaghan, Head Inspector.

I HAVE a good recollection of what I said in my address to the audience on the last public examination day. I deny that the published report of my address is verbally accurate; I can positively state that my reference to the parents was not general, for I could never have dreamed of alluding to all the parents; I am quite certain that in my address I used the expression "some parents" or "several of the parents." I don't think, however, that it is a matter of much importance, or that it has much concern with the real issues of the case. I am reported to have said that on becoming acquainted with the deficiencies of the classes, we felt "bound to inquire into" the matter, but I state positively that I never said anything of the kind. What I said was, that from what had transpired during our examination of the classes, and from my own observation previously, I had been led to conclude that there had been neglect on the part of some of the parents with respect to their children's home lessons. In the course of the examination it had become evident to Mr. Bole and myself, that the answering of the pupils was particularly defective in those branches which formed the subjects of their home lessons; and the number of pupils I observed at different times kept in during play-time, and after school hours, led me to the same conclusion. I am not prepared to say whether or not it was judicious on my part to refer to the deficiencies of the school in a public address. It is probable, however, that I should avoid doing so in future on any similar occasion. My allusion to these deficiencies on the last occasion, however, was quite unpremeditated; I had not intended beforehand to make any such allusion, and was led to do so only on observing an expression of great surprise on the countenances of the audience at the small number of pupils brought up for premiums. Mr. Bole and I had previously conferred as to whether we should report to the Commissioners the deficiencies which had come under our notice, and the conclusion we arrived at was, as well as I can remember, that we should refrain from doing so in the case of Mr. Todd's department.

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I had not the slightest idea that what I said to the audience regarding the short-comings of the school would, or could have the effect of bringing the teachers into disrepute or collision with the parents. In fact, my great anxiety was to prevent anything of the kind, and I spoke of the teachers in terms of high commendation. I have a very vivid recollection of what occurred when Samuel Knox's name was called out; I have heard Mr. Todd's statement regarding that incident, and I say that it is wholly incorrect. What really took place was this: Samuel Knox had just received his certificate, when Mr. Todd stepped forward, and while at a distance of about a yard from the mayor, pointed his finger at the boy, and exclaimed in a threatening manner, "that certificate has been wrongfully given." That is my recollection of the words used; I do not recollect having heard any other words. Something else may have been said, but I was so confounded by the incident that I lost my presence of mind for a while.

The next thing that took place was, that I stooped down and looked at the boy's certificate, because I thought that possibly we might have made a mistake as to the boy, but I found the certificate all right. Just then the mayor turned to me, and said, "What is the matter?" or "What is all this about?" and I said to him, "Mr. Todd has just made some objection or other to the giving of this certificate." Then the mayor said to me; "Oh, I suppose we had better go on;" and then the distribution of the certificates was recommenced; I cannot say positively how long the incident lasted, because I was so amazed that I cannot form an opinion on the subject; it may have lasted a minute or two, perhaps two minutes. I can give no opinion whatever as to whether Mr. Todd's words were heard by the pupils on the gallery, because I was very much upset by the occurrence, and my mind was entirely abstracted from everything, except a hurried examination of the certificate; but I can say that Mr. Todd's tone of voice was a loud one; and my impression at the moment was, that it must have been heard by everyone. After the proceedings were all over, I did not demand an explanation from Mr. Todd, because I was obliged to set off immediately for Omagh to conduct the public examination there, it having been fixed for the next day; and I was not able to return to Derry for some weeks, and in the meantime Mr. Todd's letter of complaint was sent up to the office, and of course that circumstance rendered it impossible for me to ask any explanation personally from Mr. Todd. I have a distinct recollection of the state of the gallery when the pupils were first placed upon it to receive the certificates, and I am quite clear that it was only partially filled.

I have heard Mr. Todd's statement as to the real causes of the unsatisfactory answering of the pupils, and I don't agree with him at all. As regards Mr. McColgan's absence, his duties were discharged by a substitute during the greater part of the time; I certainly admit that Mr. McColgan had been in a bad state of health for a long time before he was obliged to get leave of absence, and that during that period, though he may not have been as efficient as formerly, I think he did very fair work; but what I consider is, that during that period Mr. Todd should have taken an active part in the actual teaching of the pupils of Mr. McColgan's division, instead of acting the part of superintendent only; I do not mean to say that Mr. Todd did not take an active part in the actual teaching during that emergency, because I have no knowledge as to whether he did or not; but what I mean to say is, that if he did so, as I think he was bound to do, he cannot fairly ascribe the unsatisfactory proficiency of the classes to Mr. McColgan's illness; I am also of opinion that the teaching staff of the school was throughout the year amply sufficient, and that the occasional absence or temporary incapacity of one individual could not be referred to reasonably as the cause of a low state of proficiency. As regards the staff of pupil teachers whom Mr. Todd has designated "a staff of not very efficient pupil teachers," and has referred to as accounting for the falling off in the proficiency, I have to state that neither during the examination of the classes, nor previously, has Mr. Todd ever made any such complaint to me; and I am quite of opinion that the staff should not have been so described, for one reason, amongst others, that their answering at the annual examination of teachers was remarkably good; and further, Mr. Bole has told me frequently that Mr. Todd had expressed to him an opinion that the pupil teacher staff had never been so well maintained as since he (Mr. Bole) had taken charge of the model school. As regards the other cause assigned by Mr. Todd for the deficiencies of the classes, viz., that the pupils, having been examined and passed in 1872, in the classes in which they were then enrolled, had to be prepared in the higher programmes for the examination of 1873, and that the interval was found to be insufficient; I must say candidly, that I regard the excuse as unworthy of the head master of one of the first model schools in Ireland. My opinion is, that taking into consideration the numerous staff of teachers maintained in the model school, and the simplicity of the programmes for the several classes, an interval of 12 months should have been sufficient, and I never expected that model school teachers would seek to take advantage of the privilege implied in Note 6 of the results programme.

As regards the other cause of deficiency referred to by Mr. Todd, and which he expresses himself reluctant to specify particularly, I can only say that I do not know what he refers to. Mr. Todd has never spoken to me about anything affecting the efficiency of the teaching staff; I am aware, he says in his letter, that it was not unknown to the inspectors, but I cannot form any opinion as to what he alludes to, and I think further, that if there was anything serious affecting the efficiency of his staff, he should have considered it his bounden duty to apprise me of it. If I had been acquainted with all the alleged causes of the deficiency of the school, and regarded them as such, I should have deemed it extremely injudicious to make any allusion to them in my address to the audience.

As regards Mr. Todd's complaint that on the last occasion he had not, as was the practice in previous years, been consulted in the making out of the premium lists, I have to state that for the last two years I have been giving up the practice of consulting the teachers of model schools on the matter, because I have found that I rarely derive from the teachers the assistance I expected in a particular direction which I will explain:—My principal object in consulting the teachers on the subject was that if there happened to be on the list the name of a pupil who, from misconduct or any other cause, apart from mere answering, was undeserving of a premium, they might call my attention to the matter; but so far from this being done, I have almost always found that teachers endeavoured merely to get additional names entered on the list, and never to get one excluded. It is quite probable, however, that I would have asked Mr. Todd to look over the list on the last occasion, were it not that we were so much hurried on the day preceding the public examination. On that day we were engaged the whole day to a late hour examining the marking sheets, totting up the pupils' answering, and determining the order of merit in each class or draft, and in drawing up the premium lists and signing the certificates; and if Mr. Todd had come into the room while we were so engaged, I am sure that we would have consulted him in case any difficulties had arisen. But Mr. Todd having paid close attention to the examination of the pupils, and having had thereby full opportunity of making himself acquainted with their answering, I certainly did not consider it necessary to consult him particularly as to the preparation of the premium list, because I thought that if he had any suggestion to make he would have come voluntarily to submit it. And I may add that in the other model schools under my care the teachers always come readily to me to make suggestions on the days on which we are engaged in making out the premium lists.

As regards Mr. Todd's complaint regarding the Irish Society's prizes, I have to say that I felt considerable surprise, and I will add, indignation, at such a complaint, for the simple reason that Mr. Todd complains in 1873 of a deviation from regulations which have not been observed since 1866. That is why I felt surprised,—but I felt indignation too, because I conceived that the real object of that unexpected charge was grievously to injure me in the estimation of the Commissioners. Neither during the last examination nor at any previous time did Mr. Todd call my attention to the regulations, or complain of their not having been complied with. I have heard Mr. Todd state that he had complained of the matter to Mr. Green, the Society's agent, and I certainly feel aggrieved that he should have made such a complaint to Mr. Green and kept me entirely in the dark about the whole transaction. Mr. Green never complained to me that the regulation had been departed from. I have never heard that he spoke to Mr. Dugan on the subject, but I know this as a positive fact, that Mr. Dugan told me that he communicated every year with Mr. Green regarding the distribution of the Irish Society's prizes, and explained what had been done, and that Mr. Green expressed himself quite satisfied,\* and that he was prepared to leave the whole matter to the discretion of the inspectors.

I have said that the regulations have not been strictly complied with since the year 1866. That was some years before I came to Derry. The record kept by Mr. Todd himself shows that in 1867 those regulations were departed from. No copy of the regulations has ever since I came from Derry, been suspended in the school or placed on record here. I have never been furnished with a certified copy of the regulations from the Education Office, or from any other quarter. I was acquainted with the regulation, however, because at the first examination I held here with Mr. Dugan he explained them to me. In my opinion the regulations have not been departed from to any serious extent, as far as the mode of conducting the examination is concerned. One deviation has been, that instead of examining some of the pupils by printed questions, we employed written ones. But as regards the number of prizes awarded to each department, and the value of each prize, there has been considerable departure from the regulations. But such departure from the regulations commenced before I came to Derry.

The Irish Society's prizes were first distributed in 1865. On referring to Mr. Todd's record I perceive that even in that, the very first year, the total number of prizes given in the boys' school was only ten instead of twelve, no prizes having been given for drawing, and that the total amount awarded to the school was only 27*l.* instead of 30*l.* On referring to the record for 1866 I find that the number and value of the several prizes were in accordance with the regulations, but on that occasion four prizes, instead of two, as required by the regulations, were awarded to the 3rd class.

As regards 1867 the deviations were very remarkable, both in the accounts and the number of the prizes, and there was also a departure from the regulations as regards the subjects. For

\* As regards this statement, Mr. Todd having communicated with Mr. Green on the subject, handed me the attached note from that gentleman.

Dear Sir,

Derry, 7 May 1874.

In reply to your inquiry, I beg to state that it is scarcely possible that I could have said anything to Mr. Dugan which could reasonably have been interpreted to mean that I gave him authority to alter the disposition of the 30*l.* a year given by the Honourable the Irish Society, for prizes to the model school. I had no authority to alter the arrangements which had been approved of by the court of the society in London.

If the managers and others connected with the school desire an alteration, the new plan should be submitted to the society in the same way as the old plan for their approval.

Mr. Todd.

Yours, &c.  
(signed) W<sup>m</sup> Alter Green.

For instance—a prize was given for French in 1867, which is not included in the subjects specified in the regulations.

As regards the number of prizes awarded, which, according to the regulations, should be only 12, I find that 17 were awarded in 1867, and further that four prizes were awarded to the fourth class, instead of two, as prescribed in the regulations; and that no less than seven prizes, instead of two, were given in the third class, and that with regard to physical science, only one prize was given instead of two, as required by the regulations. In that year Mr. Fleming was the Head Inspector, and Mr. Dugan the District Inspector. I did not come to Derry until 1868.

I have heard Mr. Todd's statements regarding the anonymous letters which appeared in the local papers immediately after the examination of last year, and his explanation regarding the similarity of the subjects and expressions in these letters to those found in his own; and accepting Mr. Todd's own explanation, I think it may fairly be inferred therefrom that he inspired those letters. But supposing that he neither wrote them himself, nor inspired them, I think it is plain that he allowed himself to be betrayed into a violation of that official reserve and reticence which might be expected from a head master of a model school, and of the loyalty which he owes to the Commissioners. He seems to have brought under the notice of the persons he talked with outside many things which, even admitting that he felt himself aggrieved, he should not have made public, and I am of opinion that he contributed a great deal to setting the city on fire over our heads. He admits that he spoke freely regarding the inefficiency of the pupil-teachers, the want of courtesy on the part of the inspectors towards the teachers, the distribution of the Irish Society's prizes, and other matters, and I regard such conduct as excessively improper, the more particularly as he had not previously manifested any dissatisfaction to us with our proceedings, except what occurred at the distribution of the premiums on the public day. I cannot now say whether the answering of the pupils in Mr. McKensie's division in grammar was not as good last year as in the year before; but there is evidence in the marking sheets that the answering in the grammar home lessons was deficient in 1873. The answering in arithmetic appears to have been deficient also in the same division. In 1873, there was a general falling-off in the school as compared with 1872; but not having the marking sheets of 1872 before me, I cannot compare the two years as to particular subjects or classes. I had fully determined to report to the Commissioners Mr. Todd's conduct as regards Samuel Knox, but was prevented from doing so immediately after the occurrence by the fact that on the same evening I had to set off for Omagh, and was busily engaged there and in Enniskillen for a considerable time after. In the meantime, Mr. Todd's complaint was sent up to the office. Besides, I wished to have an explanation from Mr. Todd about the matter, and therefore I delayed reporting it. I admit that I did not consult Mr. Todd as to the making out of the premium list on the last occasion.

[Mr. Todd here called Mr. O'Callaghan's attention to the following passage in his letter of the 17th December last. "The facts are totally opposed to this statement. "All the head teachers were consulted. He admits that my practice has been to consult the teachers. I never have departed from it." And Mr. Todd asked Mr. O'Callaghan how he reconciled this passage with the admission just made, and with another statement made by him in his previous evidence; that for the last two years he had been giving up the practice.]

My answer is that the two statements are quite consistent. When I asserted in my letter that "all the head teachers were consulted," I did not mean, nor did I say, that they were all consulted by me. Mr. Todd was consulted by Mr. Bole on the morning of the public examination day, when he read out the list for Mr. Todd, and the latter made no objection. He was also consulted by Mr. Bole subsequently, when the latter asked Mr. Todd to assist him in determining the money value of the premiums, and Mr. Todd refused to give any assistance. Mrs. Smithies was consulted by both of us on the day previous to the public examination, when we were engaged with the marking sheets, &c.; and we have evidence of this in her own handwriting. The reason why the custom of asking Mr. Todd to look over the premium list on the day previous to the public examination was departed from on the last occasion was that no case arose requiring his assistance. On previous occasions, as far as my memory goes, it was generally when some difficulties arose that we used to send for Mr. Todd, and consult him; but that may not have been always the case. I do not think that there are any circumstances known only to the teacher, and which an inspector could not discover merely from the marking sheet, which would affect the eligibility of a pupil for a premium. If any such obstacle existed, it ought to be made known when the inspector was examining the class in the presence of the teacher charged with the instruction of that class.

(signed) A. O'Callaghan.

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Bole, District Inspector.

I HAVE a pretty distinct recollection of the entire incident regarding Samuel Knox, on the last public examination day, and a very clear recollection of some parts of it. I have heard Mr. Todd's statement regarding that incident, and I do not consider it a correct description

of what took place. I have also heard Mr. O'Callaghan's statement regarding the same incident, and it accords very fairly with my own recollection of it. I took notice of Mr. Todd's manner on the occasion, and it made a most profound impression on me. I adhere to my former statement that he spoke in a loud and angry tone. At this distance of time I will not undertake to quote the precise words he used, but I remember the purport of them distinctly. As nearly as I can recollect, the purport of his words was: "That certificate should not have been given; that boy is not entitled to an Irish Society's premium; and he is not entitled to any premium, for he has not been at school for three months." I am quite certain that that was substantially what he said, and it was said in a tone which impressed me as "loud and angry." I certainly felt it as an act of disrespect to me and Mr. O'Callaghan. I can easily imagine that it would not make the same impression on the mayor as on persons officially connected with the school and with Mr. Todd. I cannot account for the mayor not having taken notice of Mr. Todd's threatening manner and loud and angry tone, but from his suavity of disposition, he would be inclined to look lightly upon any incident of that kind, and certainly from his manner at this inquiry, I have been led to believe that he felt very reluctant to say anything about it, or, to use his own words, "to commit himself by taxing his memory about it."

I considered the answering of the pupils at the last examination generally unsatisfactory. I think that it was attributable to a considerable extent to the pupils' neglect of their home lessons. The bad answering, however, was not confined to those branches which form the subject of home lessons. The answering was generally unsatisfactory in the subjects in which I examined. I am of opinion that the causes specified by Mr. Todd do not sufficiently account for the unsatisfactory answering. I agree fully with Mr. Todd in thinking that Mr. McCulgan, owing to impaired health, could not have been as efficient as an assistant should be, even during the period of the year he was in actual attendance. I think it likely too, that the individual members of the pupil teacher staff may have been less efficient than those of the preceding year, mainly for the reasons assigned by Mr. Todd. Mr. Todd has complained to me some of the pupil teachers, one of whom I advised, in consequence, to resign, and he did so. But so far as I can remember, he never complained to me of the inefficiency of the pupil teacher staff generally. On the contrary, a few months before the last annual examination, he informed me that never, since the establishment was opened, had he a staff of pupil teachers that gave him so much satisfaction. In my own opinion, the staff was fairly efficient, and I never made more exertion in my life than I did to keep up a full and efficient staff of pupil teachers in this model school. As regards the other cause assigned by Mr. Todd, that the interval of twelve months between the examinations of 1872 and 1873 was insufficient to prepare the pupils in the programmes of the higher classes to which they had to be advanced, I do not consider it a satisfactory explanation.

The cause might account for the bad answering in 1873 to some extent, but not to any great extent. I am of opinion that, making every fair allowance for the operation of the causes assigned by Mr. Todd, the answering in 1873 ought to have been decidedly better than it was. Mr. Todd has referred to another cause, about which he stated he would rather not enter into particulars. I cannot say that I know what he alludes to. In fact I do not know. I am aware that Mr. Todd has stated in his letter of the 8th November, that it was not unknown to the inspectors. There were many things regarding the assistants that formed the subject of conversation between Mr. Todd and me, and there was one very special case which called for serious inquiry on my part, but on investigation, I could not find there were any grounds that could go before the Commissioners.

As regards Mr. Todd's complaint that the head teachers were not consulted by Mr. O'Callaghan and myself on the last occasion as to the making out of the premium list, as had been the custom in previous years, I have to say that the action we took on the day preceding the public examination was such as rendered unnecessary any such assistance as we had been in the habit of receiving from the head teachers. I fully concur with Mr. O'Callaghan that the aid given by the teachers was generally in the direction of adding to the number of names on our list. So far as my recollection extends, I do not think that Mr. Todd or any other teacher has ever endeavoured to exclude a boy's name from the premium list.

On the day referred to, when we had made out our list in strict accordance with the percentages of the answering and the principles which had always guided us, we found that the number of pupils eligible for premiums was so miserably small as compared with previous years, that to maintain the credit of the school, we again went over the marking sheets and actually changed the totals of answering of 15 boys in order to bring them within the limits required to make them eligible for premiums. It was then seriously discussed by us whether on any representation from the teachers we could make any further addition to the premium list, and we agreed that we could go no further in that direction. On the following morning, when Mr. Todd asked to see the premium list, I read out the names for him, and was proceeding to explain the course we had followed, when he left the office. I heard Mr. Todd's statement that when he asked to see the premium list, I moved away towards the window as if to prevent him from looking at it. I was quite astonished on hearing him make that statement. I had no such intention, and up to the moment when Mr. Todd made that statement, I was under the impression that he saw every name on the list as I read it. I certainly intended that he should, and my impression is that I traced the words with my finger as I read them out. I did not observe anything like anger or dissatisfaction on the

part of Mr. Todd at that interview. When I read out the names for Mr. Todd, I did not read out the value of each premium. I had no reason whatever for not doing so, except that the money values of the premiums were at that time only roughly determined, subject to modifications afterwards.

As regards Mr. Todd's complaint regarding the Irish Society's prizes, I am not aware that the regulations had been departed from in 1873 to any greater extent than they had for many previous years, and my attention was not called to the matter by Mr. Todd during the examination. I recollect that shortly after I came to Derry, Mr. Todd informed me that the regulations had not been carried out, but it was not in the nature of a complaint. I have a very indistinct recollection of the occurrence, but I remember his mentioning the matter to me and furnishing me with a copy of the regulations. Mr. Todd never told me that he had made a complaint on the subject to Mr. Green, the Irish Society's agent. I was very intimately acquainted with Mr. Green, and he never expressed to me any disapproval of the proceedings as regards the distribution of the prizes. But he told me he had been informed that a portion of the money had been spent in procuring refreshments for an evening entertainment after the examination, and that he thought that was not right. I understood him to refer to one occasion only. He said he had that information on good authority, but he declined to say on whose. I think he said it occurred in Mr. Dugan's time but I am not quite clear as to that. I told him I was certain he must have been misinformed, as vouchers could be furnished for every item of the expenditure.

[On reference to Mr. Todd he declared that he never gave any such information to Mr. Green, and farther that he was certain that no such occurrence had ever taken place in the model school.]

On that occasion I told Mr. Green that every prize was acknowledged by a written receipt from the pupil who obtained it, and he seemed surprised that we went so minutely into the matter. It is right further that I should mention that, for myself, I was quite disposed to adhere to the regulations as regards the number and value of the prizes, but Mr. Todd was not so disposed, for he said it would be quite ridiculous to give a prize of 5 £ to a pupil who was about to leave the school. That occurred at the examination of 1872, when the highest prize was fixed, with Mr. Todd's full consent, at 2 £ in his own school. And I have also to state that some time after the anonymous letters appeared in the local papers concerning the last annual examination, I called upon Mr. Green and asked him, had he seen the reference made in one of those letters to the Irish Society's prizes. He said he had. I told him that it was very annoying to me, and that I was anxious to speak to him on the subject, lest it should make a wrong impression upon his mind. He told me he did not mind it.

I then explained to him generally the principles on which we had gone in allocating the prizes, and he remarked that, in his opinion, the Irish Society would prefer that these prizes should be large and respectable in amount. I said that such was precisely my own opinion, and that if before next examination I should ascertain from him that the society wished to have the original regulations carried out, I would take care to see them observed, but that it would hardly give so much satisfaction as the allocation of a larger number of premiums of a smaller amount each.

He then asked me what were the original regulations, and said he would like to see a copy of them if I had one to spare. I then placed in his hand the copy of the regulations furnished to me in 1873 by Mr. Todd. He read them over, and said he had not been aware of these before, and did not recollect having ever seen them. He called his clerk, showed him the paper, and asked him was there a copy of it amongst the papers in the office. The clerk said he thought not. Mr. Green then pointed to a certain press in which he said it would be found, if in the office at all, and directed him to search for it. After some search the clerk said that no copy was to be found. Mr. Green then asked me had I any objection to leave my copy with him, as he wished to look over it more carefully, and that if necessary he would return it to me after some time. I left the copy with him, but have not received any information from him, or from the Irish Society since. I explained to him that for the examination of 1873, which had passed, we could not carry out these regulations, as we had availed ourselves of the latitude in deviating from them furnished by the precedents of previous years. He said something to the effect that it was all right, and stated that I might mention his authority for the course we had followed, adding, "Would you like to have that authority in writing?" I replied that I did not wish to trouble him for a written authority, having no further necessity for it, than a sentence in an anonymous letter, but that possibly I might have occasion to ask for it at some future time. All this took place in December last, before Mr. Todd's charge regarding the prizes was made. I heard Mr. Todd state that, so far as he could ascertain from the pupils who were awarded Irish Society's prizes, only 23 £ 10 s. was distributed in his school on the last occasion, instead of 30 £. I have to remark, as to that statement, that there was no occasion whatever for Mr. Todd to have recourse to the pupils for information. He had refused to look at the corresponding list of Board's prizes when I offered to submit it to him on the 8th November. The information which he sought to obtain from the pupils he might have obtained from me at any time had he applied to me either personally or by letter. The prizes were paid in the presence of one of his assistants, from whom the names of the pupils and the amounts awarded were no secret, and I consider Mr. Todd's conduct, under these circumstances, in going about amongst his pupils and making inquiries from them as to the amount of money paid them was grossly inordinate, utterly disloyal, and calculated, and in my opinion

designed, to degrade me in the estimation of the pupils, their parents, and, I might add, the community of Derry.

I heard Mr. Todd's statement as to what occurred between him and me in the office on the 6th of November last. That statement is in several important respects defective and incorrect. Mr. Todd commenced his inquiry as to Mr. O'Callaghan with the very significant words: "I would like to know, &c.," and in a very angry tone. Mr. Todd was certainly very angry, and showed that he was. My reply was that Mr. O'Callaghan had not informed me as to his authority, and that he (Mr. Todd) had better apply to Mr. O'Callaghan himself, and not to me. I have a most distinct recollection of his having said: "From Mr. O'Callaghan I have never expected either justice or fair play." He said that when he was leaving the room. Nothing whatever has come to my knowledge that would justify that statement of Mr. Todd's regarding Mr. O'Callaghan. Mr. O'Callaghan has invariably endeavoured to impress upon me his opinion that Mr. Todd was entitled to a great deal of consideration, and even of deference, from us, in his position of head master of this school. Up to that time, since I came to Derry, I had not observed, in any very marked manner, that Mr. Todd entertained any feeling of hostility to Mr. O'Callaghan, or any distrust of him. I did not ask from Mr. Todd any explanation of the cause of his distrust of Mr. O'Callaghan, because I thought my safest course was to say nothing. That was not, however, the first time that it came to my knowledge that Mr. Todd entertained an unfriendly feeling to Mr. O'Callaghan. While I was living in Coleraine Mr. Todd spoke to me concerning Mr. O'Callaghan in such a manner that I had to stop the interview when I found I could not stop him. At that interview he spoke of Mr. O'Callaghan in such terms that I, having official relations with Mr. O'Callaghan, could not listen to them. He spoke in extremely disparaging terms of him. That was about four years ago, as well as I can remember. It is very painful to me to be obliged to refer to that matter, and I do not wish to go into further particulars. It is only in the interests of truth that I refer to it at all. And I may add that I never mentioned it to Mr. O'Callaghan until within the last few weeks.

I heard Mr. Todd's statement as to what occurred on the 8th November; I don't object to anything in it. It is a very fair statement, and one or two supplementary expressions would make it complete. I said to Mr. Todd on that occasion that there was a fair and legitimate method of having an inquiry into anything wrong connected with the examination, and that he should have recourse to that method. Up to that time I had not taken any steps to report Mr. Todd's conduct on the 6th November, because up to that time I did not consider that what had occurred should produce an irreparable breach between us. Though I had felt greatly mortified by Mr. Todd's language on the 6th, I had determined to appeal to his better feelings, and when I reminded him that I had never spoken to him in the way he had spoken to me, if that remark had elicited from him any admission that he had spoken hastily, my letter of the 8th November would never have been written. Since that time I have felt it incumbent on me to limit my functions in this school to looking after mere matters of routine. No cordial relations have been resumed between me and Mr. Todd; I cannot say that anything unpleasant has occurred since between him and me, simply because I avoided it. I have seldom set foot in the school-room since then, except when obliged to go there with pay sheets or some such errand. I must in truth add, that there have been occasions on which, were it not for the altered relations of Mr. Todd with me, I should have deemed it my duty to inquire into matters. For instance, I would have endeavoured to ascertain on whose authority one of the trees in the model school grounds was cut down, and the principal branches of another cut off, without any reference to me. It may have been done by the Board of Works, but I do not know that such was the fact; but that was one of the matters I should have inquired into if my relations with Mr. Todd were the same as formerly.

[Mr. Todd explains that the trees were cut down on the authority of the clerk of works on his (Mr. Todd's) representing to him that they were over-shadowing and obstructing the walk. Mr. Todd says he did not think it necessary to acquaint the district inspector with the matter, and that in getting it cut down he had no intention to usurp the authority of the district inspector.]

I may also mention that some months ago one of the assistants made a very serious complaint to me of abusive language, which he alleged to have been used towards him by Mr. Todd, and I decided not to inquire into it, inasmuch as I could not do so personally, without incurring the risk of unpleasantness with Mr. Todd; and it seemed to me that to report the matter without preliminary inquiry, while Mr. Todd's letter of the 8th November was under the consideration of the Board, would have the appearance of vindictiveness on my part.

I wish to add further, that there were new arrangements which we had intended to introduce regarding the teaching of singing and drawing, but that these have remained in abeyance, owing to the fact that my functions here have been limited to mere matters of routine.

I have heard Mr. O'Callaghan's statement regarding the anonymous letters which appeared in the local papers after the last public examination; I do not think it necessary to add anything to that statement. I still adhere to what I said in my letter, that these anonymous letters prove that Mr. Todd displayed a want of that official reticence which might be expected from a person in his position.

To Mr. Todd.] I do not consider it at all strange, but on the contrary, quite consistent with

with my usual practice, that I did not report Mr. Todd's most improper conduct at the public examination on the same evening, or soon after. In my letter of the 8th November, I did not make mention of this matter, because in that letter I asked for inquiry, and I was determined to have his conduct at the public examination fully investigated when the inquiry should take place. I do not think it at all strange that Mr. O'Callaghan and I have not brought forward any witnesses to testify to an incident which must have been notorious to a great number of persons, because I do not see that any such evidence on our part was at all necessary, as I am perfectly satisfied that that complaint should be decided on the evidence already brought forward. Besides, I should feel a very strong objection to going to people for the purpose of ascertaining whether they were present on the occasion, whether they had any recollection of the occurrence, and whether they would come forward to verify my own statements. I have never heard the occurrence talked of afterwards, except by members of my own family, and in my own house. As nearly as I can recollect, it was shortly before the last summer vacation that Mr. Todd expressed to me his satisfaction with the pupil-teacher staff. I have a recollection of Mr. Todd's complaining to me of the inefficiency of some of the assistants. I do not remember admitting the inefficiency of the assistants, nor of any of them; I am now answering guardedly, for I consider inefficiency a very strong term, and had I known any of the assistants to be inefficient, I should have reported it. I stated in my letter of the 10th January, that I went over the premium list with Mr. Todd "explaining the principle on which which we had gone in awarding the different classes of premiums."

[Mr. Todd here asked Mr. Bole how he could reconcile that statement with the evidence given by him at this inquiry to the effect that he was about to explain the principle when Mr. Todd left the room.]

I now state that Mr. Todd did not wait for the explanation which I was about to offer, and further that the premium sheet, which I believed he was looking at while I read out the names, contained in itself the necessary explanation. I am of opinion that the sheet explained that some of the pupils acquitted themselves creditably, and were selected for the Irish Society's prizes, and that others who had not got on so well had been selected for the Board's premiums, and I was about to give further explanations when Mr. Todd left the office.

The further explanation would mainly have had reference to the 15 additional names which we had entered on our list. The only alterations we made in the marking sheet regarding these 15 boys was, that we added to the total number of marks in each case a sufficient number of marks to qualify them for premiums.

I stated that my intention was not called at the last examination to any infringement of the regulations for the Irish Society's prizes.

[Mr. Todd admits this, but explains that he could not have done so, inasmuch as at that time he had no means of knowing whether or not these regulations had been observed.]

It was not in order to prevent Mr. Todd from objecting to our decisions that we abstained from consulting him as to the making out of the premium lists on the day before the examination. It was because, having been several hours engaged in the office, and feeling very much fatigued, I suggested to Mr. O'Callaghan that we ought to leave. So far as I remember, I never came up to the model school in the evening before a public examination to arrange as to the premiums.

(signed) *William Bole.*

#### EVIDENCE of *Henry Darcus, Esq., Mayor of Derry.*

I RECOLLECT when I was handing the certificates to the pupils on the last public examination day, that Mr. Todd did make some objection in one case, stating, as well as I can recollect, that the pupil in question had not been as regular in his attendance as he ought to have been, or something to that effect. I think Mr. Todd made the remark merely as a kind of passing observation, and not in a loud or angry tone of voice. According to my recollection, there was not any interruption of the proceedings, even for a minute. I cannot recollect that I made any remark to Mr. O'Callaghan. But if I had felt annoyed or disconcerted, I should have remembered it.

(signed) *Henry Darcus, J.P., Mayor of Derry.*

#### EVIDENCE of *Mrs. Smithies, Head-Mistress.*

I was present while Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience on the public examination day, and while the Mayor was distributing the certificates. I was quite near the gallery, and near the Mayor also. I was present when the children were marched in to take their places at the gallery to receive the certificates. Several children, besides those

who were to get certificates, went up on the gallery. It would not be correct to say that when the children took their places on the gallery the latter presented a half-empty appearance. The gallery was crammed, and the children were awaying to and fro. There were a great many children on the gallery, besides those who were to get prizes. Those who were to sing, for instance, were on it at the time, and the gallery was so crowded that Mr. Todd, who went up to try and put the children in order, found it so difficult to make his way down again that he knocked his head against the gasheer. I distinctly remember Mr. O'Callaghan alluding to the parents not having co-operated with the teachers. He said "the parents" generally, and without any qualification. He did not say "some of the parents," or "several parents." Certainly not. I do not recollect having heard Mr. Todd objecting to a particular pupil being given a certificate.

I have no recollection of any such occurrence. I was present the entire time occupied in the distribution of the certificates, and I recollect Mr. Todd saying something about a premium to Mr. O'Callaghan, but it made no impression on me, and I did not hear at the time what was actually said. I did not understand that Mr. Todd was making any objection to the certificate being given to the pupil. I did not observe that the proceedings were interrupted by anything done by Mr. Todd. No scene occurred. If anything like a scene had taken place it would have made an impression upon my memory.

To Mr. Todd.] In former years the practice was to bring both the boys and the girls on the gallery together to receive the certificates. The boys generally stood on the back part of the gallery, and the girls in front, and when the latter had received their certificates, then the boys used to be moved down to the front for the same purpose. That is my recollection, and if there was any departure from that practice, I have no recollection of it. In former years it was always the custom for the head and district inspectors to consult the head teachers the evening before the public examination day, as to the allocation of the premiums. At the time this consultation used to take place the inspectors had not decided the amount of each premium, and in some cases they had not even decided as to the pupils who were to receive premiums. My invariable experience has been that everything relating to the premium lists, and the adjudication of the prizes, was in former years completed the night preceding the public examination day.

To Mr. Bole.] When the certificates were being handed by the mayor to the pupils, I was standing between the mayor and the gallery; I was perhaps at a distance less than two yards from the mayor; I was near enough to Mr. Todd to hear him if he spoke, and if I was myself paying attention, and I did hear him say something about a premium, and my impression at the time was that he was giving the inspector some information, or assisting him in some way. I am sure that the children in the gallery could not have heard Mr. Todd more distinctly than I heard him. I recollect Mr. McVicker being there; I was standing quite close to him; he was in as good a position for hearing Mr. Todd as I was, for he was quite close to me, and was chatting to me off and on. I do not think it likely that two dozen people could have heard distinctly what Mr. Todd said on the occasion.

There was a good deal of noise and buzzing at the time, as there usually is on such occasions, and it was very hard for anyone to be heard at the time. Mr. Todd should have spoken in a tolerably loud voice to be heard by the children on the gallery, but I say most distinctly that he did not speak in a loud voice.

(signed) *Mary Josephine Smithies.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Speers, Assistant.

I was present while the certificates were being distributed on the last public examination day. I was present during the entire time. I was keeping order amongst the boys and girls on the gallery. I was not paying very much attention to the proceedings on the part of the mayor and the inspectors. There was a good deal of noise and confusion. The gallery was full, as full apparently as in other years, as well as I can remember. There was a good deal of noise and confusion on the gallery amongst the children. I remember Mr. Todd making an objection to a certificate being given to a certain boy; the boy's name was Samuel Knox, and he is my brother-in-law. I was not watching him, however, more than any other boy. I was aware beforehand that he was one of the boys selected for premiums. I was not aware that he was not entitled to a premium. I was aware that he had not attended school for three months previous to the examination. He was in the division of which I had charge. I keep the roll of that division, and mark it every day myself. I consider myself responsible for keeping the roll in strict accordance with the regulations. I knew it was a regulation that a pupil absent for three months should be struck off the roll, but I did not strike his name off. My reason for not doing so was that I knew he would come back again, as his father had written to request, that as he was only going to the sea-side, his name should be retained on the roll. It was I made out the examination roll of my division for the inspectors, and also the marking sheet. My attention was not called by anybody to the fact that Samuel Knox's name was placed on the roll contrary to the regulation. I cannot now say whether I gave the roll to Mr. Todd to be verified, or whether I kept it until I handed it direct to the inspector. I cannot say whether Mr. Todd

ever



ever called my attention to the fact that Samuel Knox was ineligible for a prize. If Mr. Todd did so, I do not think I should have forgotten it. The roll was made up for the 12 months ended the 30th September 1873. I think Samuel Knox was absent during July, August, and September.

[On referring to the class roll it appears that Samuel Knox's absences commenced on the 1st July, and that his name was struck off on the 13th September, before he had been 12 weeks absent. Mr. Speers explains that he never strikes names off the rolls; that that duty is discharged by Mr. Todd himself, and the latter, on being appealed to, states that such was the fact, and that he struck the boy's name off because he knew that he would not return before the end of the quarter.]

When the certificates were being distributed I was standing near the inspectors, and while Samuel Knox was coming down from the gallery to receive his certificate, I was in the act of handing another certificate up to a boy who had been unable to get down from the gallery, and my back was partly turned to the Mayor; while so engaged I heard Mr. Todd saying something to the effect that Samuel Knox was not eligible for a premium, and on turning then round I saw the certificate in the boy's hand. He was then in the act of coming back to the gallery. I do not recollect anything else that may have occurred as regards Samuel Knox. When I turned round I did not look at Mr. Todd. It did not occur to me to do so, although the matter had reference to my own brother-in-law. My recollection does not enable me to say whether or not Mr. Todd made the remark regarding Samuel Knox in a loud or angry tone of voice. I could not think that it was made in a loud and angry tone of voice, because I was close to him, and I believe I should have heard it; but I was endeavouring to keep the pupils quiet in the gallery, because from the noise that was prevalent none of them could not hear their names when called out. I am quite positive as to that; I was myself unable to hear everything that was said by the inspectors and the Mayor. Occasionally I could hear some of the children's names called out, but only occasionally. I recollect the pupils being marched in to take their places on the gallery when the distribution of the certificates was about to commence; I was the person whom Mr. O'Callaghan deputed to bring them in. Mr. O'Callaghan handed me the premium lists, and directed me to collect the boys and girls whose names were on these lists, and to bring them into the gallery. I then proceeded and collected these children and brought them to the gallery. These were the only children who were placed on the gallery at that time; I brought them in myself. I believe I got some assistance from some of the pupil-teachers who were about; I mean assistance in bringing the pupils in from the hall into the schoolroom. When I arranged these children on the gallery, I stood down on the floor near the table where the reporters were sitting. I cannot now form any idea of the number of children who were then on the gallery, but the gallery was not crowded at that time. I think Mr. O'Callaghan then announced to the audience that these were the pupils who were to receive certificates, or something to that effect. I cannot recall the precise words he used.

At this time my singing class was not on the gallery, except such members of the class as were to receive certificates. I did not bring the main portion of my singing class on to the gallery until the business of distributing the certificates was drawing to a close. I had then previously arranged in order near the door, and as many of them as could conveniently get on the gallery were placed there in order to sing the National Anthem. I have a distinct recollection of these occurrences now. When I was examined yesterday afternoon my memory was not distinct, because I was suffering from toothache. But I have since been thinking over the matters, and I have now a much clearer recollection of the occurrences than I had yesterday. I have not spoken a single syllable with any person since yesterday regarding these matters. I was asked by some of my neighbours regarding them, and I told them I could give them no information. By my neighbours, I do not mean any persons connected with the School or concerned in this inquiry.

As regards the remark made by Mr. Todd with reference to Samuel Knox, I have been thinking the matter over, and I cannot add anything to what I stated yesterday.

To Mr. Todd.] The business which immediately preceded the bringing in of the pupils for the distribution of the certificates was the second part of the programme for the singing class. When that was concluded the gallery was cleared of all the singing class. I do not believe that when I was placing the premium children on the gallery any other children could have gone up along with them, because the children were placed on it according as their names were on the premium lists. It may have been possible that while they were getting up on the gallery a child or two or three may have slipped in amongst them; but I do not think that any considerable number of children could have got in amongst them. When the children were placed on the gallery I cannot say whether it was so empty as to attract the notice of the audience, because I did not think about such a thing; but, as I said yesterday, I did not notice any difference as compared with former years.

If the gallery had been only half filled, I think I should have recollected the circumstance. I do believe that the statement I have made to-day, that when the children were placed on the gallery, Mr. O'Callaghan made some announcement to the effect that they were the pupils selected for prizes, is correct. I have never since that day heard the incident regarding Samuel Knox talked of by any person.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] The gallery was a large one; there were, I think, five or six benches on it.

To Mr. *Bole*.] I have stated in my evidence that the noise and confusion on the occasion of the giving out of the certificates was so great that the boys on the gallery could hardly hear their names called out, and that it was only occasionally that I myself could hear the names. That description refers to the general state of the whole room, and not to the gallery, and was chiefly occasioned by a number of boys from schools in the town having gained admittance, and who created a great deal of noise and confusion. A part of the noise they created by throwing down a form occasionally, and by means of paper crackers. I believe the forms were thrown down to create noise, and not accidentally. This was towards the close of the proceedings. In the early part of the day, while the pupils were being examined, there was no confusion that I heard. It was when the certificates were being given out that the confusion began, and I then saw numbers of boys clambering over the forms to get near the front. On occasions the proceedings as to distributing the certificates had to be stopped, that Mr. O'Callaghan and Mr. *Bole* might appeal to the audience for silence and quietness. I believe that both had to speak louder than they generally do. I believe that both were placed in a rather difficult position in consequence of the noise.

To Mr. *Todd*.] The noise and confusion which I have described as prevailing while the certificates were being given out, was not, I believe, greater on the last occasion than on former similar occasions.

To Mr. *O'Callaghan*.] My division comprises the first and second classes, and part of the third class. In the first class, the home lessons comprise spelling and tables; in the second class, tables, spellings, and meanings from their lesson book and part of the "Spelling Book Superseded"; in the third class the same, with a little grammar and geography. If these lessons are not properly learned, I sometimes report the matter to Mr. *Todd*, and he slaps the boys with a cane; but this rarely occurs. We generally keep the boys in during play-time as a punishment, and sometimes in the evening in case they do not learn them at play-time. A good many of the boys of my division have their home lessons well prepared, but some have not; generally there are some of the latter every day.

To Mr. *Todd*.] The confinement of boys after school hours is most commonly a punishment for being late, and not for ignorance of their home lessons. Lateness of attendance in the morning is not a common occurrence in the boys' school.

(signed) *William Speers*.

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. *McKearie*, Assistant.

I was present on the last public examination day, during the entire time that the certificates were being distributed to the boys. I was exactly behind Mr. O'Callaghan. I distinctly remember that when Samuel Knox's name was called out, and he came down to receive his certificate, Mr. *Todd* said, "That boy is not entitled to that prize," or some words to that effect. I cannot remember the precise words, but they were to the effect stated. When the remark was made, I looked at Mr. *Todd*, and saw that he was dissatisfied. The remark was made in a loud voice, and in a tone that expressed dissatisfaction. The boy had the certificate in his hand at the time, and when Mr. *Todd* made the remark, the boy's father came over and looked at the certificate. Just at that moment a gentleman who was sitting close to me asked me if I thought he might speak to Mr. O'Callaghan, and this drew my attention away from what was taking place, and therefore I did not see what Mr. O'Callaghan or the mayor did, or hear what either said; but when I again looked round I saw the boy going away with his certificate in his hand. Mr. *Todd*'s remark should have been heard by the pupils on the gallery, and also by the persons in the immediate vicinity of the mayor.

#### Second Day.

SINCE I gave the foregoing evidence I have been thinking the matter over. I have not spoken to anyone, however, regarding them. I wish to modify the evidence to this extent, that the gentleman who spoke to me said, not that he wished to speak to Mr. O'Callaghan, but did I think that Mr. O'Callaghan would speak with him?

I was not in the schoolroom when the boys were brought in by Mr. *Speers* to receive their certificates, because at that particular time I had charge of the boys in the yard. I was in the room, however, while Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience, and at that time the gallery was not crowded. I was at that time in a position to have a view of the gallery. I think a part of the singing-class came up on the gallery towards the close of the proceedings to sing, "God Save the Queen." That is my impression.

To Mr. *Todd*.] It was near the end of the proceedings that the singing-class referred to came up on the gallery. I saw Mr. *Todd* himself putting them up on the gallery. They were not a great many, but they were not very few. They might be eight or 10, or more. I did not take particular notice of the gallery then; but it was fuller than it had been before. When the pupils were first placed on the gallery, I observed that the two upper seats on it were bare. I mean that they were not occupied by pupils. At that time I was standing on a form about four or five yards from the nearest part of the gallery. I had a better view of the gallery from that position than I had from any other. I think there were three of the benches occupied by the children.

That

That was the state of the case as well as I can remember. The partial emptiness of the gallery would be visible to such of the audience as were to the side, but I cannot say as to those who were in front. I was not in the front myself at that time. I am still of opinion that Mr. Todd's remark was made in a dissatisfied tone of voice.

[To Mr. O'Callaghan.] During the early part of the day, when I was examining my class before the audience, the space in front of the gallery was kept perfectly clear; but when the distribution of the certificates was taking place that space was crowded by a portion of the audience. It was so crowded that there was scarcely room for a boy to stand before the mayor to receive his certificate. The crowding there was so great that persons were forced up on the gallery. I observed two or three ladies at one side of it. Boys not connected with the school at all were up on the gallery and up on the windowsill. At that time the gallery was overcrowded and confused looking, but it was not the pupils merely that made it so. There was a marked difference between the gallery at that time and when Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience as regards numbers.

I have charge of the lower half of the senior division of the school. It comprises the junior fifth class. Their home lessons comprised grammar, geography, derivations, spelling, and subject matter of lesson. In my division the pupils do not generally come well-prepared with their home lessons. At the last annual examination their answering in these subjects was not as good as at previous examinations. I do not remember any explanation of the circumstance being asked or given by me on the occasion. I now recollect that Mr. Bole remarked to me that they were not as well prepared as at previous examinations. The pupils have judgment cards which they bring home once a week for the inspection of their parents, who should then attach their signatures to them; but on several occasions such cards are brought back by the pupils without being signed, and I have then to send them back again for the necessary signatures. When my pupils proved neglectful of their home lessons I have often brought the matter under the notice of Mr. Todd, and at other times have caused the pupil teachers in charge to do so.

I remember there was one subject with regard to which Mr. Bole was dissatisfied with the pupils' answering; one or two subjects, but I cannot exactly say which they were. Mr. Bole, I think, spoke to Mr. Todd about the spelling, and said he had to select only easy words for the boys. I recollect Mr. Bole remarking that the pupils were not as well prepared in the subjects of the lessons they had to learn at home as in those which I taught them in school. My explanation was that they did not prepare their home lessons. I recollect that Mr. Bole made particular inquiry of me on the subject, and Mr. Todd was present at the time. That is as well as I can remember.

[To Mr. Todd.] I know that it is the duty of a teacher not merely to hear the pupils' home lessons, but to teach such lessons. Still I think there is a distinction between home lessons and lessons taught in school, because if the pupils do not learn their lessons at home they cannot be taught them in the school so well. I mean that there is a limited time set apart for bearing home lessons, and if the pupils do not prepare them at home there is no time for teaching them in school.

I cannot say if the space in front of the gallery was kept clear during the entire time that the examination of the pupils was going on, but I knew that it was clear while my class was being examined.

(signed) *John McKenzie.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Robert McVicker.

My three sons and one daughter attend this model school. I was present on the day of the public examination on two occasions, in the early part of the day, and also while the premiums were being distributed. I was quite close to Mr. O'Callaghan when he was addressing the audience. I remember distinctly the reference he made to the parents, and I felt that it did not apply to me, as my wife looks after the children getting their lessons at home. An elder son of mine, who is at the Foyle College, assists them also, but I think the lessons assigned are quite too difficult for the children. I did not feel offended by what Mr. O'Callaghan said, because I did not consider his remark applied to me; but I am aware that some parents whom I am acquainted with did feel disheartened at what was said. I am quite positive that Mr. O'Callaghan spoke of the parents generally, and did not make use of any such expression as "some parents," or "several parents." I recollect that when the certificates were being distributed by the mayor, Mr. Todd stated, as regards one boy, that he was not entitled to a certificate, as he had been three months absent. He stated that to Mr. O'Callaghan. What he said might have been heard by a couple of dozen of the audience, and of course the children who were on the gallery must have heard it. It was not said in a loud or angry tone of voice. Mr. Todd merely told Mr. O'Callaghan the circumstance. It caused no interruption whatever of the proceedings, as Mr. O'Callaghan said, "Oh, never mind!" I did not hear the mayor make any remark.

[To Mr. Todd.] I cannot state the exact words that Mr. Todd used. I am sure, however, that the words used were not, "That certificate has been wrongfully given." I am perfectly satisfied as to that. The mayor did not appear to have been disconcerted by the remark; nothing of the sort. I saw nothing in the occurrence calculated to give offence

to the inspectors or to embarrass the mayor; but the impression it left on my own mind was, that it should not have occurred at that time; that it should have been previously settled in private between the inspectors and Mr. Todd.

At the time the certificates were about to be distributed I was not struck by the small number of pupils on the gallery, for the gallery was crowded to excess; but I cannot say that all who were on it were to receive certificates.

The effect produced on my mind by Mr. O'Callaghan's remarks was, that I considered there must have been something wrong somewhere. The questions put by the teachers to the children on the gallery seemed to me to be too difficult.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I am quite sure that Mr. Todd's remark regarding the boy not being entitled to a certificate did not produce any interruption of the proceedings, except just for the second during which the words were spoken. I cannot, however, rely upon my memory for the exact words that were spoken, or for what exactly took place; but if there had been a scene I should certainly have remembered it.

To Mr. Bole.] I think the occurrence must have been unpleasant to both inspectors. I cannot say that it should be described as "painful." Mr. Todd did not speak disrespectfully to them. I recollect his commencing what he said with the words: "I beg your pardon, Mr. O'Callaghan; that boy is not entitled to that." I have a very distinct recollection of that. I really do not think Mr. Todd's object could be accomplished more quietly than it was.

(signed) *Robert McVicker.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Samuel Knox.

My son, Samuel Knox, is a pupil of the model school. I cannot recollect whether or not I was present at the last distribution of premiums of the model school. I am not sure; I cannot be certain about it. I think I was present in 1872. My son got a prize at the last examination. If I were present, and that Mr. Todd stated in public that my son was not entitled to the certificate he was getting, and if I then went over and looked at the certificate, I think I could not have forgotten the circumstance. I have never heard of the circumstance until the last day or two. Mr. Speers came first and asked me if I remembered anything particular about my son's prize, and I stated that I did not remember anything particular. Mr. Todd also asked me about it, and it was only when he spoke to me that I remembered I was in the schoolroom towards the latter part of the proceedings. I was there when an application was being made by some of the audience to Mr. O'Callaghan for a holiday. I suppose I was there for some time before that. I think I was there for some time before the proceedings were all over. I was never nearer to the gallery than about six yards during the time. I cannot now recollect whether I heard pupils' names called out. I think the whispering among the audience was such as would prevent the names from being heard. I have no recollection of having seen my son on the gallery, but of course if I was there I must have seen him; but I cannot now recollect whether I did or not. It is quite natural that I should be looking out for my son there. I don't suppose I would have gone there if I had not children at the school, and yet I cannot remember whether I saw any of them on the gallery.

I pay 2s. 6d. a quarter for my son. I pay in advance. My son did not attend during the months of July, August, and September. I did not pay for that quarter. I was aware that, in consequence, my son's name should be struck off the roll at the end of that quarter. I did not write to Mr. Todd, or any teacher, requesting that his name should be retained on the roll.

(signed) *Samuel Knox.*

#### EVIDENCE of Miss Julia McCornick, Assistant.

I WAS present on the last public examination day, during the entire time that the certificates were being handed to the pupils. I was seated on one of the front benches, about three or four yards from the mayor. I had a very fair view of all the proceedings; and I paid particular attention to them. I have no recollection of having heard Mr. Todd make any loud and angry observation regarding a pupil receiving a certificate. I never heard anything of the kind. I do not think there was a great deal of noise. I do not think Mr. Todd could have made any loud and angry remark during the proceedings without my having heard it. I did not observe any interruption to the handing of the certificates.

To Mr. Todd.] I heard nothing whatsoever said about a certificate.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] According as each pupil's name was called out, the pupil, I think, came down from the gallery. My view was occasionally impeded, as my sister and one other person, and possibly a second, were standing in front of me. I did not see Mr. Todd take any part in the distribution of the certificates. I saw him there, but I did not notice him doing anything. I did not see him come forward at any time and make a remark to Mr. O'Callaghan or the mayor.

To Mr. Bole.] As well as I can recollect, Mr. Todd stood opposite to the table; that is, between the table and the gallery. Generally speaking, I heard distinctly what was going on at the time. I think I heard distinctly what Mr. Bole said, and also what Mr. O'Callaghan said. It was necessary, in order to be heard, that they should speak in a loud tone of voice. There was not perfect quietness in the room, but it was not very noisy; still there was such noise that a person could not be heard if he did not speak loud. Mr. McVicker was standing directly in front of me, along with my sister.

(signed) J. McCormack.

EVIDENCE of Miss Bessie Patton, Assistant in Girls' School.

I WAS present on the last public examination day, when the certificates were about to be distributed. I was standing about four or five yards from the gallery, and about the same distance from the mayor and the inspectors. I did not take notice of any interruption having been occasioned by Mr. Todd objecting to a certificate being given to a particular boy. I did not observe any such incident. I do not recollect having heard Mr. Todd making any objection, or interrupting the proceedings in any way; but I was not very near to the place. There was much noise, and buzzing, and confusion, as there always is on such occasions. If any scene or interruption of the proceedings had taken place, I dare say I should have observed it; but I was looking in different directions.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I was standing near the door. There was a considerable crowd between me and the mayor, and I sometimes had a difficulty in seeing what was going on. Sometimes people stood upon the forms between me and the gallery. Under these circumstances I think it was quite possible for Mr. Todd to advance and address the inspectors without my observing the circumstance.

To Mr. Bole.] I did not remain the whole time standing in the same place. I had occasionally to move about, to make room for persons coming in or out. I was talking occasionally and looking sometimes. I was standing in such positions that part of the time I saw the mayor and could observe the proceedings, and part of the time I was unable to do so. But for the greater part of the time I think I had a view of the proceedings. I have still a pretty clear recollection of what took place. The only thing I recollect, as regards Mr. Bole's part in the proceedings, is that he stood near the table, and occasionally went in and out. I cannot remember that he did anything, or that he had the certificates in his hand. I was looking more at the children than than at anything else.

To Mr. Todd.] I was standing in such position that, if Mr. Todd advanced to the front of the gallery, and stated in a loud and angry tone that a particular boy was not entitled to a certificate he was getting, I should have heard it. If he had spoken in a loud tone, I think the noise and confusion that were prevailing at the time would not have prevented me from hearing him. Most of the time I was standing, but several times I sat, and could then see nothing. I do not think I sat down while the certificates were giving out. I think I saw the whole proceedings connected with the distribution of the certificates. I recollect the pupils being marched in to take their places on the gallery when the distribution of the certificates was about to commence, and I think the gallery was full. I think the singing class came in along with them, as on former occasions. I did not notice any distinction between the singing pupils and those who were to receive prizes on the gallery. I have been nearly four years in this school, and, according to my recollection, on public examination days the boys and girls have always been placed on the gallery together to receive their certificates, the boys on the back benches and the girls in front.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] My impression is that on all such occasions the singing class came on the gallery together with those who were to receive certificates. When the certificates were being given out on the last day I was standing in a considerable crowd, and I was not giving my whole attention to the proceedings, and it is possible that some slight movement might have taken place at the table without my noticing it; but if any loud or serious interruption took place, I think I should have observed it.

To Mr. Bole.] I did not hear a single word said by Mr. Bole during the proceedings, nor a single word of what Mr. O'Callaghan said. I knew the drift of what was said merely from the remarks of the persons around me. It was the confusion and noise that was prevailing at the time, and the distance at which I stood, that prevented me from hearing what was said. When Mr. Bole was reading out the names of the pupils, I heard him very indistinctly, generally the mere sounds, and only occasionally did I hear a name. I cannot say whether Mr. Bole read the names in a loud voice, because I was not paying much attention to the matter. I could not say whether Mr. Todd or Mr. Bole was the nearer to me at the time; both seemed to be near the table. Considering all the surrounding circumstances, I am still of opinion that if Mr. Todd made an observation in a loud and angry tone I should have heard it.

To Mr. Todd.] I have never since the examination day heard any persons speaking of any interruption of the proceedings by Mr. Todd.

(signed) B. Patton.

## EVIDENCE of Miss Dugan, Infant School Mistress.

I WAS present all the time while the mayor was handing the certificates to the pupils. I was seated about three or four seats back in the room, not directly behind the mayor, but to one side. I had a full view of the proceedings when I was looking, but the infants having been disposed of in the early part of the day, my interest in the proceedings had ceased, and I was talking to my friends. I did not hear Mr. Todd make any loud or angry remark, either to the mayor or to the inspectors. I did not observe any interruption to the proceedings; but I did not see clearly what was going on. If Mr. Todd advanced to the table, and made a loud and angry observation to the effect that the prize was wrongfully given, I think I should have heard it; but I was not paying much attention to the proceedings.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] It is quite possible that Mr. Todd might speak to the inspectors without my noticing it; but if he spoke in a loud and angry tone, I think I should have heard it. There was, however, great noise and confusion at the time, and the parents were pressing forward to see if their children should get any premiums. The noise and confusion were such that Mr. Bole and Mr. O'Callaghan could not have been heard where I was sitting if they did not speak in a loud tone of voice; and they did so. I heard what Mr. O'Callaghan was saying as to the per-centages, because I took an interest in them.

To Mr. Todd.] I have never since that day, or on that day, heard any person speak of Mr. Todd's having in any way interrupted the proceedings, or of having objected to a particular boy receiving a certificate.

(signed) A. B. Dugan.

## EVIDENCE of Miss McClure, Monitress.

I WAS standing beside Miss Bailey on the last public examination day, and quite close to the mayor. The mayor was standing, but I do not recollect seeing him distributing the certificates. I have no recollection of hearing Mr. Todd object to a certificate being given to any pupil; I have no recollection of anything of the kind.

To Mr. Todd.] If any noisy interruption of the proceedings had taken place I should have observed it. I never heard such a thing talked of in the city. When I said that I did not see the mayor distributing the certificates, I merely meant that, as his back was partially turned towards me, I did not see the act of handing the certificates, but I knew that he was distributing the certificates.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I cannot say where the inspectors were standing in relation to the mayor, nor how they were engaged. I remember Mr. O'Callaghan having a paper in his hand, but have no recollection of what he did with it, nor of what Mr. Bole did.

To Mr. Bole.] I do not recollect hearing forms being thrown down or noises made with paper crackers. If anything of the kind took place I should have heard it.

(signed) Agnes MacClure.

## EVIDENCE of Miss Charlotte Bailey, Pupil Teacher.

I WAS standing quite close to the mayor when he was distributing the certificates on the last public examination day. I have no recollection of hearing Samuel Knox's name called out; I have no recollection of having heard Mr. Todd object to Samuel Knox getting a certificate; I have no recollection of any such occurrence; I was present during the whole time while the certificates were being distributed; I did not leave the room for a single second; no interruption of the proceedings could have occurred without my noticing it.

(signed) Charlotte Bailey.

## EVIDENCE of Mrs. McGee.

I HAVE children attending the model school; I was present on the last public examination day from the commencement to the close of the entire proceedings; I was seated in front of the gallery, quite close to the mayor and the inspectors; I had a full opportunity of seeing the whole proceedings; I did not see or hear Mr. Todd object to any pupil receiving a certificate; my recollection is quite clear on the subject, and I state that I did not see or hear anything of the kind; I do not think that Mr. Todd could have made a loud and angry observation without my hearing it. There was, as there always is, considerable noise on the occasion, and I found it difficult to catch the names of the pupils as they

they were read out; I did not observe that the handing of the certificates to the pupils was stopped or interrupted in any way.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I did not notice Mr. Todd at all during the proceedings; I did not observe him come forward and address any remark to the inspectors or to the mayor

(signed) *Rebecca McGan.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mrs. Galbraith.

I HAVE six children attending the model school; I was present the whole time on the last day of public examination. While the certificates were being handed to the pupils I was standing on the end of a form, about three or four yards from the mayor, and I had a good view of the proceedings, and was in a position to hear what was said; I do not recollect that Mr. Todd made any objection to a particular boy being given a certificate; I do not recollect any such incident; I think if Mr. Todd made any such remark in a loud and angry tone it would have been impossible for it to have escaped my notice. There was, as there always is on such occasions, a little noise and confusion, but not such as would prevent me hearing Mr. Todd speaking if he made a remark in a loud tone; I have never heard any allusion to such an incident until to-day; I remember the allusion made by Mr. O'Callaghan in his address to the parents not having co-operated with the teachers, and I heard it much talked of afterwards by parents, who seemed to be rather indignant with the teachers, thinking the latter had blamed the parents for the want of success of the pupils.

To Mr O'Callaghan.] I saw Mr. Todd standing, but I did not observe him do anything except try to preserve order; if he came forward and made a quiet remark to the head inspector or the mayor I might not have observed it, but if he spoke in a loud and angry tone I certainly should have heard it.

(signed) *M. Galbraith.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. McClelland.

I WAS present on last public examination day, while the certificates were being given out by the mayor. I was sitting pretty close to the mayor. I saw Mr. Todd whispering to the inspector, I think to Mr. O'Callaghan, two or three times, but what he said was not audible. I have no recollection of his having objected to a certificate being given to a particular pupil. If Mr. Todd had made a remark in a loud and angry tone of voice, I was in such a position that I must have heard him. I remember the children being brought up on the gallery, and it seemed to me to be overcrowded, because there was a great deal of trouble to get them fixed towards both sides.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] There was considerable noise and confusion in the back part of the room; but I did not observe anything particular in the neighbourhood of the mayor more than might have been expected on an occasion of the kind.

(signed) *McClelland.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Alexander Adams.

I AM connected with the "Sentinel" newspaper. I was present at the public examination of the model school. I was present when the certificates were being distributed, and when Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience. I was near him at the time, and it was I that furnished the report of the proceedings which appeared in the "Sentinel." A good part of my report of his speech was a verbatim report; but I think that towards the close I condensed it. I have, however, not preserved my notes. I remember the substance of that part of his speech in which he spoke of the parents not having co-operated with the teachers; but I have not read the report since it was published. (*Published report handed to Witness.*) My impression is that his allusion to the parents was general; that there was no limitation, such as "some parents," or "several parents." That is my recollection; but at this distance of time I cannot speak positively as to the verbal accuracy of that part of my report; my impression is that I did not condense that part, and that it was substantially correct. I do not recollect any incident taking place during the distribution of the certificates that interrupted the proceedings. I do not remember Mr. Todd making any objection to any boy being given a certificate. I do not recollect Mr. Todd saying to the head inspector, with reference to a particular boy, that he was not entitled to the certificate he was receiving. I have no recollection of any such occurrence having taken place. I did not take any very particular notice of what was going on while the certificates were being distributed. I heard the mayor giving the certificates to the pupils, and everything seemed to go on smoothly; but I was talking to a gentleman beside me, or at least I whispered to him once.

To Mr. Todd.] If any scene that would have interrupted the proceedings had taken place I should have observed it, for I was in close proximity to the mayor; but I cannot recollect having noticed anything of the kind. I remember the pupils coming down from the gallery to receive their certificates, and the gallery appeared to me to be filled; I mean filled with pupils, and I mean the gallery itself, not the space intervening between the gallery and the audience. It would not be correct to say that the gallery was not half full.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I have not a distinct recollection of the pupils being marched in to take their places on the gallery to receive their certificates, but I believe I was present at that particular time. I have no recollection of the gallery being very thinly occupied at that time.

(signed) *Alexander Adams.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. John Carragher.

I HAVE children attending the girls' department of the model school. I was present for a short while in the forenoon at the public examination. I was not present, however, while Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience, or while the certificates were being distributed; but I read the report of the proceedings in the "Standard" and "Sentinel." I was particularly struck by that part of Mr. O'Callaghan's address in which he referred to the parents. My first impression on reading it was that it was an excuse made by the teachers to the inspectors to cover their own neglect; and I believe that that was the prevailing impression amongst parents. Several parents that I am unacquainted with felt annoyed at it. I made inquiries of several of the teachers, of Mr. Todd amongst the number, if they had given such information to the inspectors; and they clearly denied having done so. I felt that the remarks did not justly apply to me, as I always look after the instruction of my children; and I know that if all parents acted as I have been in the habit of doing, no such blame could be attributed to them. I also considered that the remarks were calculated to do injury to the system of national education. I can safely say that my children are never later leaving home for school in the morning than a quarter after nine o'clock.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I am not aware that my children are ever detained at school after school hours as a punishment for not knowing their home lessons.

(signed) *John Carragher.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. William Dale.

I HAVE no children attending the model school. I was present at the public examination for a portion of the time. I was not present when Mr. O'Callaghan was addressing the audience. I went away just after the pupils had taken their places on the platform to receive the certificates. I did not observe that the platform was very thinly occupied. I thought it was full; in fact it was very full. I mean filled with children. At that time a daughter of mine was attending the school. I did not observe her on the platform. I read the account of the proceedings that appeared in the newspapers. I considered that it was, to say the least of it, unwise of Mr. O'Callaghan to make the remarks he did reflecting on the parents. I felt that I did not deserve to be blamed very much, and I have heard other parents say as much also.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I am perfectly certain that at the time the pupils took their places on the gallery to receive the certificates, the gallery was crowded. Until within the last week or fortnight no teacher of the model school spoke to me on the subject of Mr. O'Callaghan's remarks. My daughter was some three or four times detained after school hours, as a punishment, but I understand it was principally for talking. She might have been oftener detained.

(signed) *William Dale.*

#### EVIDENCE of Mr. Charles Hogg.

I HAVE children attending the model school. I was present a portion of the day of the last public examination, but left before Mr. O'Callaghan addressed the audience. I read the report of the proceedings in the newspapers, and I was certainly struck by the remarks of the head inspector as to the want of attention on the part of the parents to the instruction of their children. I could not understand what was the reason why such remarks were made, and I thought them very uncalled for. They were certainly calculated to raise the indignation of the parents very much against the person who made them. I considered that Mr. O'Callaghan must have based these remarks on information derived from the teachers, and I thought the latter must have given him incorrect information, because for my own part I pay the utmost possible attention to the instruction of my children. I have never

heard



heard any allusion made to Mr. Todd having interrupted the distribution of certificates by making any loud observation on the occasion. I have never heard any such incident spoken of. Mrs. Ogg was present during the distribution of the certificates to the girls, and I have never heard her allude to any such occurrence.

To Mr. O'Callaghan.] I have four girls attending the school; no boy. My girls have been kept in school after school hours for not knowing their lessons. I do not think such a thing has occurred very often. It is very possible that they may have been late in the morning. I said I felt indignant on reading the head inspector's remarks regarding the parents.

To Mr. Todd.] I cannot be certain that it was always for not knowing their lessons that my children were detained after school hours; it may have been for other causes.

(signed) Charles Ogg.

— No. 20. —

MINUTES of Proceedings of the Board of National Education, dated 23rd June 1874.

REPORT by Mr. Sheridan, chief of inspection, as to charges made by Mr. Todd, head master of the Londonderry District Model National School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and also into charges made by these gentlemen against Mr. Todd.

Mr. Murland and Mr. Justice Morris agree to read this report, and the documents connected therewith, before the subject is brought forward again for the consideration of the Board.

— No. 21. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to J. W. Murland, Esq.

Sir, Office of National Education, 23 June 1874.

As directed by the Board this day, we have now the honour to forward for your perusal the report of inquiry held by Mr. Sheridan, chief of inspection, into charges made by Mr. Todd, head teacher of the Derry Model School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and into charges made by the latter gentlemen against Mr. Todd.

J. W. Murland, Esq.,  
&c. &c. &c.

We are, &c.  
(signed) James Kelly,  
Wm. H. Newell, } Secretaries.

— No. 22. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to the Right Honourable Mr. Justice Morris.

(Enclosure.—B.O., 23rd June 1874.)

Sir, Office of National Education, 25 June 1874.

In accordance with the directions given at the meeting of the Board on last Tuesday, we have the honour to forward for your perusal the report of the inquiry held by Mr. Sheridan, chief of inspection, into charges preferred by Mr. Todd, head master of the Londonderry District Model School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and also into the charges brought by these officers against Mr. Todd.

We are, &c.  
(signed) James Kelly,  
Wm. H. Newell, } Secretaries.

The Right Honourable Mr. Justice Morris,  
22, Lower Fitzwilliam-street.

## — No. 23. —

MINUTES of Proceedings of the Board of National Education, dated 30th June 1874.

THE Secretary submits the report of inquiry by Mr. Sheridan, chief of inspection, into charges made by Mr. Todd, head master of the Londonderry District Model National School, against Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and Mr. Bole, district inspector, and also into charges made by these gentlemen against Mr. Todd.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd be again very severely reprimanded, and informed that, if ever found guilty of any insubordination or disrespect to his superiors, he will be visited with dismissal or with some other severe punishment.

## — No. 24. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to A. O'Callaghan, Esq., Head Inspector.

Sir,

Education Office, 2 July 1874.

WE are directed to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education have had under their special consideration the report of an inquiry held by Mr. Sheridan, one of their chiefs of inspection, into charges preferred by Mr. Todd, head master of the Derry Model School, against you and Mr. Bole, and also into charges preferred by you and Mr. Bole against Mr. Todd.

The Commissioners have also had before them the minutes of evidence taken at this inquiry, and the correspondence referring to irregularities on the part of Mr. Todd since the date of his appointment in January 1862.

The recent inquiry was of a most painstaking and searching character, and extended over more than a fortnight. It was granted by the Commissioners at the request of Mr. Todd himself, who complained of the Board's decision of the 10th February 1874, by which he was severely reprimanded, and entreated the Commissioners to grant him an opportunity either of rebutting or of explaining the matters that were brought forward against him. In reviewing the correspondence referred to, the Commissioners observe that on several occasions Mr. Todd exhibited a want of temper and an insubordinate spirit in his dealings with the Board's inspectors; that he has been cautioned, admonished, and reprimanded, but apparently without effect, and that once an order was made to remove him from the charge of the Derry Model School; an order which the Commissioners subsequently changed on Mr. Todd's expressing, by letter, his deep regret for having advanced against his inspector charges which he was unable to support; but on this occasion they considered it necessary to send one of their chiefs of inspection to Derry to reprimand Mr. Todd in the presence of the then Bishop of Derry, himself a Commissioner of National Education, and of the head and district inspectors. No head master in the Board's service has exposed himself to anything like the amount of official censure recorded against Mr. Todd, and the results of the recent inquiry, so far from inducing the Commissioners to modify the terms of their reprimand of the 10th February last, confirm the view that the Commissioners then took of his conduct, and they now order that Mr. Todd be again very severely reprimanded, and informed that if ever found guilty of any insubordination or disrespect to his superiors, he will be visited with dismissal or some other severe punishment. Mr. Bole has instructions to read this letter to Mr. Todd in your presence.

We are, &c.

A. O'Callaghan, Esq., A.M.  
Head Inspector, Londonderry.

(signed) James Kelly,  
Wm. H. Newell, } Secretaries.

## — No. 25. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to William Bole, Esq., District Inspector.

Sir,

Education Office, 2 July 1874.

WE are directed to inform you that the Commissioners of National Education have had under their special consideration the report of an inquiry held by Mr. Sheridan, one of their chiefs of inspection, into charges preferred by Mr. Todd, head master of the Derry Model School, against you and Mr. O'Callaghan, head inspector, and also into charges preferred by you and Mr. O'Callaghan against Mr. Todd.

The Commissioners have also had before them the minutes of evidence taken at this inquiry, and the correspondence referring to irregularities on the part of Mr. Todd since the date of his appointment in January 1862.

The

The recent inquiry was of a most painstaking and searching character, and extended over more than a fortnight. It was grained by the Commissioners, at the request of Mr. Todd himself, who complained of the Board's decision of the 10th February 1874, by which he was severely reprimanded, and entreated the Commissioners to grant him an opportunity either of shutting or explaining the matters that were brought forward against him.

In reviewing the correspondence referred to, the Commissioners observe that, on several occasions, Mr. Todd exhibited a want of temper, and an insubordinate spirit, in his dealings with the Board's inspector; that he has been cautioned, admonished, and reprimanded, but apparently without effect; and that once an order was made to remove him from the charge of the Derry Model School; an order which the Commissioners subsequently changed, on Mr. Todd's expressing, by letter, his deep regret for having advanced against his inspector charges which he was unable to support; but on this occasion they considered it necessary to send one of their chiefs of inspection to Derry, to reprimand Mr. Todd, in the presence of the then Bishop of Derry, himself a Commissioner of National Education, and of the head and district inspectors. No head master in the Board's service has exposed himself to anything like the amount of official censure recorded against Mr. Todd; and the result of the recent inquiry, so far from inducing the Commissioners to modify the terms of their reprimand of the 10th February last, confirm the view that the Commissioners then took of his conduct; and they now order that Mr. Todd be again very severely reprimanded, and informed that, if ever found guilty of any insubordination or disrespect to his superiors, he will be visited with dismissal, or some other severe punishment.

You will read this letter in the presence of the head inspector.

We are, &c.  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

W. Bole, Esq., A.M., District Inspector.

— No. 26. —

LETTER from *William Bole, Esq.*, to the Secretaries of the Board of National Education.

Londonderry Model School.

Gentlemen,

Londonderry, 7 July 1874.

As instructed in your letter of the 2nd instant, conveying the decision of the Board as to the inquiry recently held at the Londonderry Model School, by Mr. Sheridan, Chief Inspector, I read that letter on the morning of the 6th instant to Mr. Todd, in the presence of the Head Inspector. Mr. Todd has twice applied to me for a copy of your letter, and I request to be informed by you whether or not I should furnish such copy to him.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *William Bole,*  
District Inspector.

The Secretaries.

— No. 27. —

LETTER from the Secretaries to the Board of National Education to *William Bole, Esq.*, District Inspector.

(District 2.—Londonderry, 187, 74.)

Londonderry Model School.

Sir,

Education Office, 11 July 1874.

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th instant, stating that Mr. Todd, Head Master of this School, has applied to you for a copy of our letter of the 2nd instant, conveying the decision of the Board as to the inquiry recently held by Mr. Sheridan, Chief of Inspection: We have to inform you that it is not consistent with precedent to furnish copies of official documents, but if Mr. Todd did not fully comprehend the subject matter of our letter, you are at liberty to read it again for him.

We are, Sir, &c.  
(signed) *James Kelly,*  
*Wm. H. Newell,* } Secretaries.

William Bole, Esq., District Inspector, Derry,

## LONDONDERRY MODEL SCHOOL.

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COPIES of the EVIDENCE taken before Mr. *Sheridan*, Chief of Inspection, on the Inquiry held by Order of the NATIONAL EDUCATION BOARD of *Ireland* at the MODEL SCHOOL, *Londonderry*, in May 1874; of his REPORT on such Inquiry; of any ORDER or DECISION of the Board thereon; and, of all CORRESPONDENCE relating thereto.

(*Mr. Charles Lewis.*)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*27 May 1875.*

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